

HOME NEWS

Stronger controls on sale of fireworks and stiffer penalties

By John Groszer
Consumer Affairs
Correspondent

Stringent and more effective controls on the sale of fireworks are to be introduced by the Government. Mr Alan Williams, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, told the House of Commons yesterday that after considering views submitted to him in response to a consultation document on firework safety published last April he proposed seven specific measures to strengthen controls.

He explained later that the Government had decided not to ban the sale of fireworks because people might be encouraged to make their own. He had two options: a licensed system of displays and an arrangement that would increase safety and attempt to retain the spirit of November 5. After consulting consumer bodies, manufacturers and retailers, the police and fire officers he decided on the latter.

Legislation will be required for two of the proposals: that the apparent age of persons to whom fireworks may be sold should be raised from 13 to 16; and maximum penalties for selling fireworks to children below the specified age, and for throwing or discharging fireworks in the street should be increased from £20 to £200.

The other five proposals, Mr Williams said, would be achieved by voluntary agreement with the manufacturers and wholesalers' associations, which had offered their full cooperation. They are as follows:

Fireworks should be available in the shops for only three weeks before November 5 and a few days thereafter.

The statutory maximum is to be removed from the fee for registering premises where fireworks may be kept, and local authorities will be empowered to fix the charge in their own areas.

Fireworks or helicopter-type fireworks are to be banned. Such fireworks have been shown to be five or six times more dangerous than any other type.

The prohibition of "bangers", the most frequently misused fireworks, is to be progressively reduced over the next two years to a half of this year's output. There will be more than 20 million fewer banger-type fireworks by the end of the two-year period.

Within the next two years all fireworks other than those bangers (still in limited production) and sparklers, and larger individual display fireworks devices, are to be distributed in boxed selections only. This will mean effectively that children with small sums of pocket money will be unable to buy fireworks.

It is thought that boxing in fairly expensive amounts will greatly reduce the incidence of accidents. Mr Williams said that one of his main anxieties was pressure on government business time in the coming session. If any MP who happened to be lucky in the forthcoming ballot for private members' Bills should seek to bring forward a measure for fireworks safety along the lines the Government had decided, he would receive full government support.

He added that while there were 1,200 accidents last year that was a considerable reduction on the 2,400 in 1968. More accidents occurred in the two weeks preceding Guy Fawkes Day than on November 5 itself.

While the reduction in the number of fireworks on sale would be considerable, he did believe it would have a serious effect on the fireworks industry. Had he banned private sales and chosen the licensed system of displays that some people advocated, that might have affected 2,500 or 3,000 jobs in the industry.

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Communist narrowly reelected in AUEW poll

By Tim Jones
Labour Staff

The apparent march of moderate candidates within the powerful Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers was halted yesterday when Mr Kenneth Brett, a communist, retained his position as an assistant general secretary against a strong moderate challenge.

In a postal ballot Mr Brett polled 142,759 votes against Mr James Docherty, his moderate opponent, who polled 142,698 votes.

Mr Brett, aged 33, who opposes the 16-pay-limit guidelines, attracted more votes than any other communist candidate in an AUEW election. His re-election gives him another five years in the post he has occupied since 1968.

He said: "My success is a repudiation of the scurrilous press campaign that has been conducted against the Communist Party members and the left-wing candidates."

His success is certainly a warning note to union members who thought that the introduction of postal balloting heralded an automatic victory for moderate candidates.

An announcement of the result was delayed after Mr John Boyd, the returning officer, had recommended a recount because of the water thin difference between the votes cast.

In the first count, Mr Brett polled 142,733 votes against the 142,724 for Mr Docherty.

Mr Brett's success punctures the optimism of the moderates within the union who considered that the defeat last week of two prominent left-wingers in union elections meant a general move towards their point of view.

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Demonstrators who occupied part of the TUC headquarters at Great Russell Street, London, yesterday, protesting to passers-by about the organization's policy on unemployment and on the jailed picket.

Circulation of devolution document queried

By Our Political Editor

Mr Wilson told the Commons yesterday that he hoped it would be possible in the present parliamentary session to make some progress with the devolution Bill to set up assemblies in Scotland and Wales, but added: "I cannot be certain."

He continued: "But we certainly intend at the very beginning of the next session (that is, November next year) to introduce the Bill and see it into law."

Under questioning, he said that he did not believe that the people of Scotland or the Labour Party there wanted to see the matter rushed without proper consultation with them.

He said that they could express a view on a very complicated White Paper for that Scotland and Wales wanted to deny the right of the English to form an opinion. The Government hoped that, with the good will of the House, the Bill would become law in the 1976-77 session.

Mr Whitelaw, deputy leader of the Opposition, who leads on devolution questions, agreed with Mr Wilson that there should be a great national debate. He asked that two tests should be applied. First, would the Government's proposals ensure the unity of the United Kingdom or lead to its fragmentation? Secondly, would they lead to more efficient government for all parts of the United Kingdom?

Mr Wilson answered that "this is an important subject and must be fully examined. The unity of the United Kingdom was 'the whole essence and inspiration of the White Paper'." On the question of whether the proposals provided effective and efficient organization in the interests of all the people who were governed with-

in the British Isles, it would be for the House to decide whether it was satisfied when it saw the White Paper.

The Prime Minister added: "I hope they are. It is based on the unity of our country, with maximum possible devolution of control over their own affairs of Scotland and Wales."

Mr Thorpe, the Liberal leader, protested that reports in the Westminster lobby yesterday received copies of the devolution White Paper, although MPs would not receive them until tomorrow night.

Mr Wilson showed his sympathy. He said he would inquire into it; it was "a serious question." Confidential early replies to the Westminster lobby had been in force for many years under all governments, and "I myself have been critical of it."

He knew there was concern in the House, "not least because these replies find their way into the hands of some members (of the Commons) and not others."

The system of confidential early replies copies of government documents for the lobby is "calm and moderate argument and later broadcasting organiza-

tions could prepare their reports before the official publication time."

Mr Wilson and his press advisers have succeeded in virtually destroying the old lobby system, which was certainly not beyond criticism, and therefore the devolution White Paper, like nearly all other government documents nowadays, was given uncontrolled distribution to the lobby yesterday.

Eighty copies sent to the lobby at Westminster yesterday morning fell into only a few hands, with neither government nor lobby control, and many newspapers had no copy. The Prime Minister's inquiry should establish that if the lobby is to be by-passed or treated as of no account, the Government must accept full responsibility for document distribution. Mr Wilson and his press advisers cannot expect to have it both ways. "Extraneous pay-off," Mr David Steel, the Liberal MP, described as the moral of the handling of devolution when he addressed members of the Conservative Bow Group at the House of Commons last night.

Mr Steel said, "The state of fury to which Scotland had been driven by the failure of the London establishment to accept the long overdue demand for national self-government is a failure," he added.

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He said that although it seemed likely that less power would be devolved to Wales than to Scotland, the people of Wales would see that once the assembly began to tackle matters in Wales it would need law-making powers. The people would then demand those powers. "What is really important is not what the assembly is when it starts, but what it will become."

The block grant of government money to the Welsh assembly should be geared to a formula and not be the subject of an "annual haggles". If it were based on a formula, it would be unacceptable, he said. There might be a time when, for example, a Conservative government might cut a block grant because it did not like the political colour of the Welsh assembly.

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Psychopath gets 'life' for offences on boys

From Our Correspondent
Oxford

Ian Jack Dunlop, aged 39, a psychopath who admitted 13 charges involving young boys, was jailed at Oxford Crown Court for life yesterday. He was freed two and a half years ago from Broadmoor, where he had spent nine years for 34 sexual offences.

Mr Justice Jones told him: "There remains a very substantial degree of mental responsibility for the evil acts performed. I shall do all I can to see that never again do you or another child be at any danger from you."

The sentence was meant to indicate "that you should be in prison for as long a period as necessary to bring you to the point where age and failing faculties will mean you are then perhaps released; but a day sooner than that."

Nigel Christian Banks, aged 33, a company director, of Romford Street, Whitechapel, London, said to have met Dunlop in Broadmoor, where he was jailed for five years. He admitted two charges against a man of 18 who was said to be a male prostitute, and against a boy of 14.

The court was told that between May 31 and July 7 Dunlop committed offences against four boys aged nine, 13 and 14 in Dorset, Oxfordshire, Lancashire and Norfolk. They included abduction, wounding, assaults and sexual gross indecency.

Mr Douglas Draycott, QC, for the defence, said Mr Dunlop had lived in institutions for 36 of his 39 years. When 28, he was sent to Broadmoor with a restriction order lasting 15 years after admitting 17 offences against boys, including child stealing and asking for 17 years to be taken into consideration, all committed while he was an officer of a boys' gymnasium in Essex.

He was transferred to an open hospital at Chislehurst, Berks, in May, 1973, and was still a patient when the offences were committed. Mr Dunlop had been in a way characteristic of a psychopath with premeditated sexual desires, counsel added, and said: "It was rather like letting a mad dog loose and expecting it not to bite."

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Murder rouses new Protestant anger

From Christopher Walker
Belfast

Mourning "loyalist" anger at the Government's security policy increased yesterday with the murder of another Protestant member of the Ulster Defence Regiment, the sixth in Northern Ireland this year.

The murder occurred shortly after dark outside the man's home in the Fountain Estate in Londonderry. At the time the man, described as a part-time member of the UDR's 5th battalion, was off duty and was hit several times.

The killing was believed to be the work of the Provisional IRA, which earlier in the day had maintained the tempo of the recent upsurge in its campaign of violence with a proxy bomb attack on an army checkpoint on the Londonderry-Donegal border.

A lorry hijacked in Ulster was driven across into the republic by gunmen and loaded with 250lb of explosive. The driver was then forced to take it back to the military checkpoint, where it exploded 30 minutes later.

Although the bomb did not cause any casualties it severely damaged the checkpoint buildings and a grocery shop opposite. The same army post was the target of a similar attack two weeks ago, but then the bomb was defused.

For the first time in more than three weeks sectarian murder returned to Northern Ireland with the discovery yesterday morning of the grotesquely mutilated body of a Roman Catholic in an alley off the staunchly Protestant Shankill Road.

A detective described the killing as one of the most brutal yet witnessed in the province. The man had been virtually decapitated with some kind of cutting instrument which he had not yet identified, he said.

The dead man was later identified as Mr Francis Crossan, aged 34, whose brother was murdered in the same area of Belfast two years ago when he was shot at the wheel of his bus. Mr Francis Crossan was married with two children.

The police fear that Mr Crossan's death might be the signal for the beginning of another round of random sectarian killing in Belfast. One reason for the recent lull in sectarian warfare is thought to have been the recent feud between the two wings of the IRA, now halted by a local truce.

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HOME NEWS

End of trial by jury proposed in drink-and-driving cases and for minor theft and shoplifting offences

By Marcel Berlins
People charged with drinking and driving offences, and those charged with minor theft and shoplifting offences, should no longer have the right to choose to be tried by a jury, a report published yesterday proposes.

An inter-departmental committee, under the chairmanship of Lord Justice Joffe, also recommended that the maximum penalties for these offences should be reduced. The committee was appointed in 1973 to look into the distribution of criminal business between the Crown Court and the magistrates' courts.

The report describes the rules of allocation of cases between the lower and higher courts as "complicated, confusing and anomalous". It makes many recommendations designed to simplify the system and make it easier to understand.

The key proposal is that there should be only three main categories of offences: those triable only by jury, those triable only by a magistrate, and those triable by either. The committee proposes that the maximum sentence for a defendant charged with a summary offence should be six months imprisonment or a fine of £400. At present magistrates can pass a six-month sentence for those offences.

The report calls for a reallocation and, in some cases, a redefinition of motoring offences. All drinking-and-driving offences should be dealt with summarily, it proposes. The maximum penalties should be six months imprisonment and/or a fine of £400. This compares with the existing maximum of two years imprisonment on indictment. Offences of failing to supply a sample of blood or urine would carry a maximum penalty of three months imprisonment and/or a £200 fine.

Some offences that at present do not give the defendant the right to choose trial by jury should be upgraded into the intermediate category which gives him that right. The report lists assaults against the police and possession of an offensive weapon among them.

The offences of publishing an obscene article for gain and sending indecent or obscene material through the post, under the Post Office Act, 1953, should also become intermediate.

It seems to us especially desirable that a person charged with an offence involving an obscene or indecent publication should have a right to have the matter decided by a jury, which can better reflect contemporary public attitudes towards obscenity and indecency than can a stipendiary or a bench of lay justices.

The committee takes the view that all intermediate offences should on summary conviction carry a maximum sentence of six months imprisonment and/or a fine of £400. At present magistrates can pass a standard maximum fine of £1,000. The Home Secretary should have the power to increase by order the standard maximum fines, both for intermediate and summary offences, so that they can keep pace with inflation, but not for any other reason.

The committee estimates that its recommendations, if implemented, would have the effect of transferring a tenth of the Crown Court's workload to the magistrates' courts. Money would be saved because trial on indictment is at least three times as expensive as a summary trial for a case of similar gravity.

Additional resources should be made available to enable the magistrates' courts to cope with the additional burden.

Other recommendations of the Joffe committee are aimed at improving the existing procedures for summary trials. There should be a greater measure of advance disclosure of the prosecution case to the defence, it says. It continues: "It is, in our view, most desirable in the interests of justice that defendants should be fully acquainted with the case against them as far as it is practicable to achieve this."

A person charged with an offence in the intermediate category should have a statutory right to receive, on request, copies of the written statements of the witnesses on whose evidence the prosecution proposes to rely. If there are no written statements or a magistrate directs that in the interests of justice (to prevent intimidation of witnesses, for instance) they should not be served, the defendant should be given a summary of the facts on which the prosecution relies.

When a defendant is being committed for trial on the written statements, without evidence being heard, the defence and prosecution counsel should be required to sign a certificate saving they have examined the statements and are satisfied that the case is suitable for commitment to a higher court.

The Distribution of Criminal Business between the Crown Court and Magistrates' Courts Report of the Inter-departmental Committee (Command 6323, Stationery Office, £2).

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MPs rebuke Mr Wilson on 'council watchdogs'

By Our Political Staff

A group of 29 Labour MPs have put down an early-day motion at the House of Commons which implicitly rebukes the Prime Minister for his suggestion last week that local councils might have special finance watchdog committees made up of representatives of local interest groups.

The MPs, from both the left and right wings of the Labour Party, suggested that "democratically elected local councillors and not self-appointed pressure groups should be responsible for determining the spending priorities of local authorities". They added caustically that bodies which purport to represent the views of local ratepayers should put their support to the test through the ballot box in the normal way.

Mr Wilson had suggested, at the joint local government conference at Eastbourne, examining the idea of a finance consultative committee composed of representatives from ratepayers and welfare groups, community associations and people with special interests and skills. He believed such committees could be the start of "a new partnership between electors and elected".

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Incident after Elwes memorial service

Mr John Aspinall was punched on the chin after he had delivered the address at the memorial service to Dorris Elwes, in London yesterday. The incident occurred as friends of Mr Elwes, the painter, who committed suicide on September 6, left the Jesuit Church in Farm Street, Mayfair.



Mr Aspinall ruefully rubbing his jaw outside the church in Farm Street.

Mr Aspinall was punched by Mr Tremayne Rodd, a cousin of Mr Elwes, who then ran away up Farm Street, shouting: "That's what I think of your bloody speech, Aspinall!"

Mr Aspinall, who founded the Clermont Club in Berkeley Square and now runs a wild animal sanctuary and private zoo near Maidstone, Kent, tottered back, rubbed his chin and said: "I am used to this sort of thing in dealing with wild animals". He added later: "Lucky I've got a strong chin."

Mrs Rosalie Elwes, sister-in-law of the late Mr Elwes, said: "How distressing. I am most terribly sorry. I thought your speech was excellent."

Mr Rodd, a cousin of Mr Elwes, said later: "I am very overwrought and angry. His speech was totally inappropriate in every way. I am most upset."

In his address inside the church Mr Aspinall read from a letter Mr Elwes had sent him shortly before his death, mentioning "the incredible, wonderful times spent, more often than not, with you, Aspers, and Lady Sarah".

Mr Aspinall said Mr Elwes

lived with topicality and for the moment. But he could never find the fame to which he knew he was entitled. "He resented the fact that many lesser men had found fame through the media and through the newspapers. He knew many people had achieved much, but he never managed it."

His business affairs had never been the success they might have been. He was happiest entertaining a dozen or more close friends with his amusing stories or his wit.

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School meals meeting a different social need

By a Staff Reporter

There are more overt than underfed children, except perhaps in areas of social deprivation, according to the report of a committee established to investigate school meals which was published yesterday.

The committee on catering arrangements in schools, which was set up in May 1972, by Mrs Thatcher when she was Secretary of State for Education and Science, says: "Taking the country as a whole, there is little evidence of clinical malnutrition, or even under-nutrition, among schoolchildren. In children, as in adults, excessive weight due to overeating is commoner."

It points out that the school meal no longer has the same important place it once had in the child's nutrition, but it is still important for a minority of pupils, particularly in areas of social deprivation, and for overweight children who eat too much of the wrong kind of food. The committee suggests that school meals have social aims: to ensure that the children of working mothers receive a proper midday meal to make a contribution to the resources of poor families, and to teach children how to eat in company and find out about different kinds of food. But it emphasises that school meals should not attempt

to satisfy all, or the greater part, of the nutritional needs of children. It is the responsibility of parents, assisted, if necessary, by social services agencies.

The report makes no recommendations for radical change in the present pattern of school meals, but it does suggest that a more flexible approach may be needed, particularly in the case of older pupils. As a first step to a brighter image, the committee recommends that the new title School Catering Service should be adopted immediately.

The committee also recommends that the present rate-support grant to local authorities should be amended to help authorities that are responsible for providing a large number of free school meals and to allow all local education authorities to introduce greater flexibility into their school-meal service, in particular by allowing them choice of caterers.

In a second report on school meals published yesterday, a working party recommends regular monitoring of their nutritional value, but it does not suggest any changes in their present nutritional standards.

Catering in Schools (Stationery Office, 75p)
Nutrition in Schools (Stationery Office, 50p)

Farmer denies kidnapping Lady Devonport

Peter John Mathews, aged 36, a farmer of Herons, Weybridge, Surrey, who is accused of kidnapping Sheila Lady Devonport, aged 67, from her home, last March, appeared at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

After the jury had been sworn in, Mr Barry Hudson, J.C., for the prosecution, said there were matters he wished to be raised in the absence of the jury. Judge King-Hamilton, J.C., then dismissed the jury until today.

Mr Mathews denied stealing and unlawfully carrying away Lady Devonport against her will on March 18, and assaulting her, causing her bodily harm. He also denied robbing Marion Tate of three necklaces and a clock on February 15, his year: burgling her home at Rye Hill, and stealing three necklaces and a clock, and assaulting her, causing her bodily harm.

He also denied robbing Rosemary Tennant on February 17 and assaulting her, causing her bodily harm.

Tories' choice

Mr Vivian Bendall, aged 37, a surveyor, from Croydon, has been adopted by the Conservatives to fight Redbridge, Ilford, North, at the next general election. The seat is held by Mrs Millie Miller, Labour, with a majority of 778.

Footballer for trial on stolen goods charges

Ian Hutchinson, the Chelsea footballer, was sent for trial by magistrates at Feltham, Middlesex, yesterday, charged with handling stolen stamp albums and a backgammon board. Mr Hutchinson, aged 27, of Coat Hill, Horsham, Sussex, appeared with two other men. He was also charged with handling two silver napkin rings.

Richard Keith Page, aged 38, student, of The Drive, Coulsdon, Surrey, was sent for trial in charges of receiving stamps and albums, dishonestly handling stamps and silver, and dis-

Woman charged with harbouring is remanded

From Our Correspondent Southampton

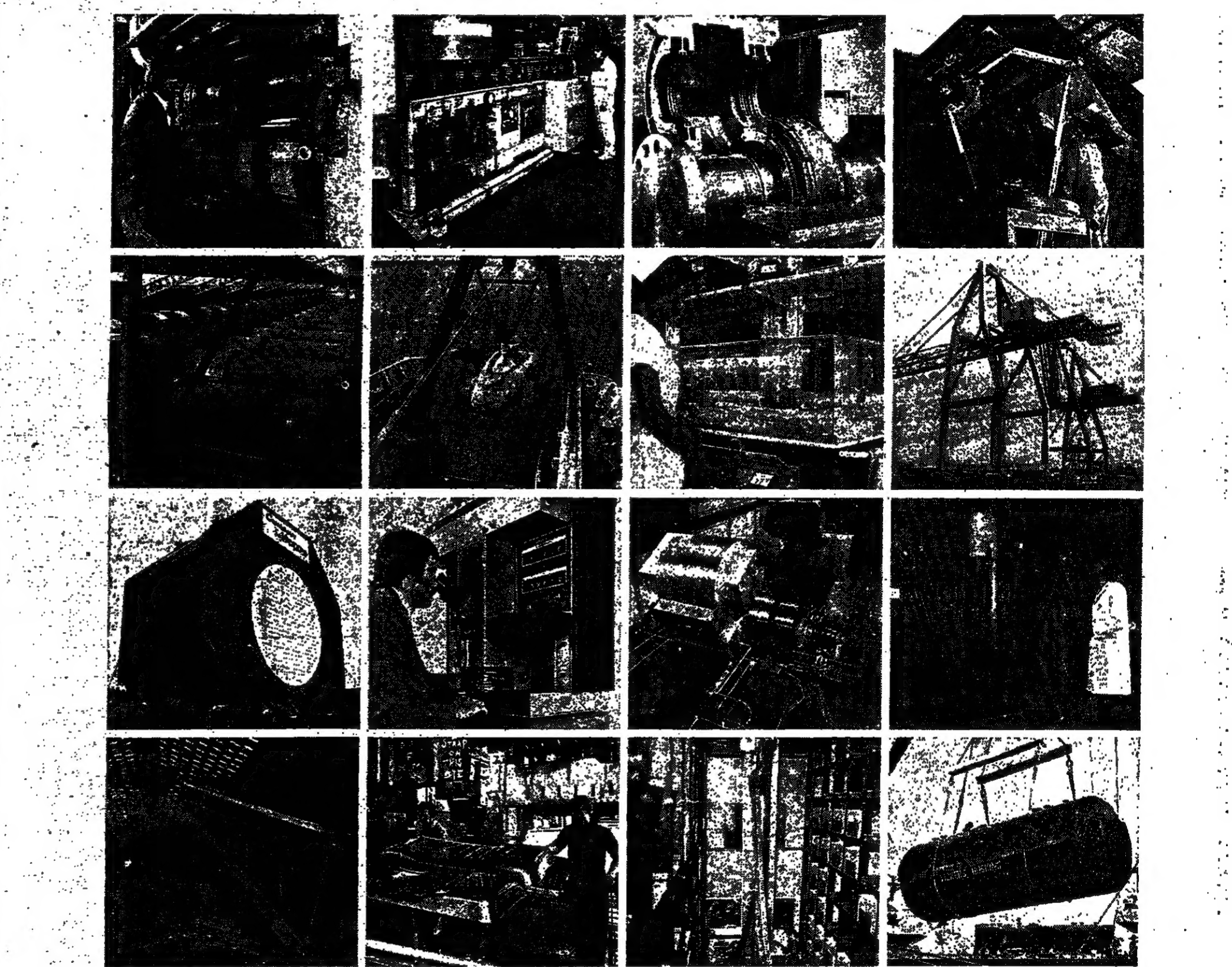
Mrs Lynne Bogan, aged 28, who is divorced, was accused of harbouring a bomber. Mrs Bogan, of Chilton Green, Millbrook, Southampton, was arrested last week under the anti-terrorism law after the discovery of 400 lb of explosives under a Southampton block of flats.

She was charged yesterday with harbouring Donald Brian McLoughlin, known as Steve McCann, with intent to impede his apprehension for prosecution between April 24, 1974, and October 14, 1975, after he had placed a bomb with intent to cause an explosion likely to endanger life or cause serious damage to property. She was remanded in custody for a week.

Discharge for 19 demonstrators

Four women and 15 men were discharged at Marlborough Street Magistrates' court, London, yesterday, when the Director of Public Prosecutions offered no evidence against them on charges of conspiracy to trespass at the Regent Street offices of Iberian Airlines on September 10.

They were bound over to keep the peace for 12 months. They were said to be part of a demonstration against executions in Spain.



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HOME NEWS

Poulson case doctor suspended for six months by GMC

Dr Sydney Hepworth, aged 60, a former major of Southport, who was jailed in February for three years for corruption involving the John Poulson business, was suspended from the medical register for six months by the Disciplinary Committee of the General Medical Council yesterday.

When the chairman of the committee announced its findings, Dr Hepworth called out: "Oh, no sir", and clung to the back of his seat to keep his balance. Then he broke down and began to weep.

He was helped from the room in great distress shouting: "It's not fair. It's not fair."

The committee had been told earlier that an appeal against the three-year sentence on charges of corruption and conspiracy to commit corruption had been rejected earlier this month.

Mr Kenneth Widgery said the doctor became Mayor of Southport in 1962. It was in the 1950s that Mr Poulson's firm was active in the area and that brought it into close contact with various offices of Southport council, including Dr Hepworth.

As a key figure on the planning and development committee, he had improperly used his influence to help Mr Poulson and his firm, Mr Widgery said.

Two doctors said to have been drawn into a scheme involving false passports were both ordered to be suspended from the register. Dr Mohammed Khan, aged 41, who was born in India, was ordered to be suspended for six months and Dr Peter Nicolaides, aged 62, who was born in Cyprus, was ordered to be suspended for 12 months.

Both men were fined £1,050 at Middlesbrough Crown Court earlier this year for making untrue statements to procure a passport for someone else. The committee was told yesterday that both doctors counter-sued without knowing the applicant: Dr Khan 17 times and Dr Nicolaides three times.

They charged the usual £2 fee but, the committee was told, the chairman of the travel agency behind the scheme was charging Cyprits up to £400 each for a false passport. There was no suggestion that Dr Khan made any inordinate financial gain.

Dr Frank Taylor, aged 40, of Highbury, Jesmond, Newcastle upon Tyne, worked an ingenious fraud on the National Health Service but acquired "pathetically modest" things such as a cat food, the committee was told.

He came to an arrangement with the manager of the local Boots store to buy non-medical goods with National Health Service prescriptions. Dr Taylor was ordered to be suspended from the register for 12 months.

Mr Paul Honigsmann told the committee that instead of payment Dr Taylor would make up NHS prescriptions for drugs that had the cash equivalent of the goods.

Mr James Watt, for Dr Taylor, said that at first he used the goods to resell his surgery. Only later did he secure things for himself, and they were of a pathetic quality, such as orange squash and tins of cat food.

It was stated that Dr Taylor had pleaded guilty at Newcastle upon Tyne Magistrates' Court in September to one charge of attempting to obtain money by deception and three charges of obtaining money by deception from the Newcastle upon Tyne Family Practitioner Committee and was fined a total of £600. Thirty-one similar offences had been taken into consideration.

Military use of Dartmoor vital, inquiry is told

From John Young, Exeter

The continued use of Dartmoor as a military training area is vital for Britain's defence, a public inquiry at Exeter was told yesterday. If the Armed Forces are excluded from the national park they would be less well equipped to do their job.

The inquiry has been called in response to strongly expressed views by conservationists, despite the Nugent committee's finding in 1973 that a military withdrawal would not be in the public interest.

The Army and Royal Marines use about an eighth of the 364 square miles of the park, consisting of three firing ranges near Okehampton and two smaller training areas in the south-west. The firing ranges are used for only part of the year; at other times the public has free access.

In a written submission the Ministry of Defence argues that the Dartmoor training area, together with the barracks at Plymouth, the harbour at Devonport and the helicopter base at Plymouth, provides a unique and essential combination for commando training.

The main objections are the Countryside Commission and the Dartmoor Preservation Association. Both state that military training is incompatible with the concept of a national park.

The National Trust for the Protection of Rural England and the Ramblers' Association want a fixed date for withdrawal. The National Trust is concerned about damage to archaeological monuments on its land at Kingsmoor but has agreed to extend training licences for a further 12 months.

Local district and parish councils almost unanimously want the military to stay. The Nature Conservancy Council states that training has not significantly damaged the land and has had some indirect benefits.

Sharing of television in Welsh is proposed

From Trevor Fishlock, Cardiff

The BBC and commercial television have worked out a scheme for sharing a Welsh language television service on the fourth channel. It would cost £8.8m to set up and £5.3m a year to run, and would be the Welsh-English first in Wales.

But Mr Morris, Secretary of State for Wales, indicated yesterday that costs might cause deferment of the plans.

The service would at first provide 25 hours a week of Welsh language programmes and all the present Welsh output of BBC Wales and Teletel.

Teletel, now totalling 13 hours, would be moved on to the fourth channel working party, appointed by the Home Office, said in its report yesterday.

With all the Welsh on one channel, the BBC and HTV would hope to win back viewers who have switched to the Welsh-English first in Wales.

Apart from school broadcasts, the new service would be in the evenings and would be augmented by programmes of Welsh interest in English.

HTV would broadcast on the fourth channel on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and the BBC on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Sunday programmes would be shared. A joint programme committee would balance the output, and BBC and HTV would continue to operate separate news services.

The BBC and the IBA (Independent Broadcasting Authority) would share the task of installing transmitters and other equipment. The working party estimates that a new Welsh Language UHF service covering nine tenths of Wales could be working within 32 months of approval.

Cooperation between the BBC and commercial television in Welsh language broadcasting presents no insuperable difficulties. But finance is another matter. The BBC, IBA and HTV are not able to finance the fourth channel and the service would require government aid, the report says.

Broadcasting organizations in Wales and a number of cultural organizations are concerned at the possibility of delay. In some quarters there is bound to be anger if the service is long delayed.

The controversial advice a year ago by Mrs Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, to fight inflation by investing in tin can food, was more than that of any other investment in gold, building society deposits, national savings or government stock.

In the same issue, Mr O'Malley, Minister of State, Department of Health and Social Security, said in an interview that it is unlikely that any government in the foreseeable future will have the resources to reduce the retirement age of men to 60. It would cost £1,559m now, and even if such a sum was available he would not recommend that all of it should be used for that purpose.

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Conservatives back legislation on race

By Martin Huckerby

Conservative support for the Government's planned legislation on race relations was announced yesterday by Mr Ian Gilmour, MP, opposition spokesman on home affairs. He said it would be inconsistent with the way the Conservatives voted in the last session if they were to oppose it.

The Conservatives would seek to amend and improve the legislation, he said, and continued: "We must recognize that legislation does have some part to play in improving community relations."

In a speech at Leeds University he said that a high level of unemployment over a long period might worsen race relations. "It could, first, make young coloured people feel increasingly alienated from the rest of society. If any minority group believes firmly that they are being denied opportunities available to the rest of society then they are bound to be easy converts to the arguments of the extremists, whose real aim is to destroy our society and create a Marxist-type one in its place."

We must not provide these extremists with a fertile ground for their activities."

He noted that young coloured people out of work, sharing the expectations of their white colleagues at school, would in many cases be reluctant to take on some of the dirtier and less agreeable jobs that their parents were prepared to do.

Another danger, Mr Gilmour believed, was that the social

trains caused by unemployment might make some white workers who are unemployed or threatened with unemployment think wrongly that their jobs had been threatened or lost because of the presence of coloured immigrant workers.

To overcome these difficulties, Mr Gilmour suggested that there was not only a role for Government and employers to play by providing training schemes, fair recruitment policies and educational programmes but also a vital role for the trade unions which, "with one or two honourable exceptions, have not been the most conspicuous front-runners in attempts to improve community relations."

Control of immigration had not removed strains, he said, but without control the strains would certainly have been exacerbated. He then said: "There is no further major curb on immigration that we can and should introduce."

However, he felt illegal immigration undermined confidence and was gravely unfair to those who came to Britain legally.

He ruled out large-scale repatriation as dangerous nonsense. On integration, he said people ought to have the choice of staying close together or of leaving the community where many of their immigrant colleagues lived. "What is clear is that if integration means making everybody the same or forcibly mixing them together, then it is impractical and undesirable."

Licensing change sought after Lords' ruling

By Our Political Staff

Lord Harman-Nicholls, introduced a private member's Bill in the Lords yesterday to amend the Licensing Act, 1964, in view of the ruling of the Law Lords that drinks must not be served at dances and functions after midnight, except by waiters.

The ruling has caused great difficulty to organizers of dances and social functions who, until the ruling of the Law Lords in the case of Carter v Bradbeer, have continued to serve drinks from bars up to the time permitted in special hours licences.

The decision was further reinforced early this month when the Lord Chief Justice and two other judges upheld in the High

Court the decision of the Cardiff magistrates to ban over-the-bar sales at nine late-night dinner dances.

Mr Robin Corbett, Labour MP for Hemel Hempstead, introduced a private member's Bill on November 12 to make the law what it had been taken to mean before the Law Lords' decision, but that move failed through lack of parliamentary time.

Lord Harman-Nicholls is seeking to make the same change in his Bill and he stands a good chance of getting it through before any new attempt in the Commons.

Mr Corbett has said that the ruling meant that what millions of people had been doing for years at late night functions was illegal.



Sharon Fitton, aged six, Miss Pears 1975, with her portrait by Trevor Willoughby, unveiled yesterday.

BBC wins two TV awards

By a Staff Reporter

BBC television has won both the fiction and non-fiction prizes in the 1975 "Emmy" awards presented by the International Council of Television Arts and Sciences for programmes made and shown outside the United States.

The non-fiction prize has gone to *Marek*, the moving story of a seven-year-old boy who died after a hole-in-the-heart operation.

In the fiction or entertainment class, the prize went to *The Emancipator*, Jack Rosenthal's semi-autobiographical story of two small Jewish boys evacuated to Blackpool in the Second World War.

Marek also won the Asian Broadcasting Union prize. Marek's parents had asked for the film to be shown in the BBC's *Inside Story* series even though the boy died shortly after surgery.

Complaint of wife's detention

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

A Pakistani draper from Glasgow complained yesterday that his wife, who is 18 months pregnant, has been detained at Harmondsworth, near Slimes, for several weeks, and refused entry to Britain because the Home Office does not believe they were married.

Mr Muhammad Alam also alleged that a British government official in Islamabad had asked her how many times she and her husband had had intercourse on their wedding night.

Mr Lyon, Minister of State at the Home Office, is considering representations made on her behalf to obtain entry to Britain. The Home Office said yesterday: "The immigration authorities are not satisfied she intends to stay for the time she suggests."

Mr Alam, who arrived in Britain in 1961, says he produced a certificate of their marriage, which took place on April 5, 1973. The couple arrived together in Britain in October, but his wife had no entry certificate.

Students at Aston vote to leave the NUS

Members of the students' union at Aston University, Birmingham, voted yesterday to leave the National Union of Students. At a special general meeting 893 members voted in favour of leaving and 332 voted to stay in the NUS.

The group behind the campaign to leave the NUS, led by Mr Ian Minnis, president of the Aston union, claim that their example will be followed by other universities. They say NUS conferences have become "political talking shops" paid for with money that should be helping students.

Nurse hit patient with cricket bat

A hospital staff nurse who hit a mental patient across the buttocks with a cricket bat was fined £75 by magistrates at Thornbury, near Bristol, yesterday. Mrs Doreen Driscoll, aged 40, of Coronation Road, Bristol, pleaded guilty to ill treating a patient at Northam Hospital, Almondsbury, on August 16.

The prosecution said the patient had returned to watch television after being sent to his room.

Industrial action by Guernsey harbour workers is severely delaying parcel post to and from the island. The Post Office yesterday advised customers not to post parcels to Guernsey containing perishable goods.

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Disabled seek cars rather than mobility allowance

By a Staff Reporter

It would be cheaper for the Government to provide the £400 to £2,000 disabled drivers with maintained saloon cars rather than the planned taxable £5 a week mobility allowance, the Disabled Drivers Association said yesterday.

The association organized a mass lobby of Parliament to urge reconsideration of the mobility allowance scheme before it is introduced by the Department of Health and Social Security on January 1.

At the lobby, and a press conference beforehand, association members argued that with mobility disabled people could go to work and carry out family duties. If they were not mobile they had to rely on the state for income and family services.

Nearly five hundred disabled people took part in the lobby in Westminster Hall. A letter

to the Prime Minister was handed in at 10 Downing Street after a mass demonstration visited Mr Alfred Morris, Under-Secretary of State for the Disabled.

At present disabled people who can drive are either given an invalid licence or £100 a year towards a privately owned and converted saloon car. The car drivers group are exempt from the £40 annual road tax.

When the mobility allowance scheme starts in January the present benefits will remain for those who now have them. But people newly qualified for help will be paid the taxable £5 a week, without road tax exemption.

Mr Douglas Campbell, chairman of the association, said disabled car drivers might be forced to go back to tricycles because the new allowance would not help to meet the cost of running a car.

Private inquiry into trial of three youths

Sir Henry Fisher, President of Wolfson College, Oxford, and a former High Court judge, is to carry out an inquiry, in private, into the case of three youths who were freed by the Court of Appeal last month after being convicted in 1972 on charges arising out of the death of a homosexual and a fire at a house in Doggett Road, Cardiff, London.

Their release from prison came after public controversy and pressure from Mr Christopher Price, Labour MP for Lewisham, West, that the youths had been wrongly convicted.

Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary, said in a Commons written reply to Mr Price yesterday that an independent inquiry would be set up "to inquire into the circumstances leading to the trial of Colin George Lattimore, Ahmet Salih and Ronald William Leighton on charges arising out of the death of Maxwell Confair and fire at 27 Doggett Road; and to report."

Mr Jenkins said Sir Henry's findings would be published.

Postal-parent project attracts 5,000

More than five thousand people have agreed to take part in a scheme in which each pays £40 a year towards helping a particular child in a third world country. Among those who have enrolled are prisoners from Armley prison, Leeds.

The scheme, Give a Child a Chance, was formally launched yesterday by Mr Christopher Chataway, the former Conservative minister. It has been organized by Action in Distress, which is seeking to double the number of such sponsored children by the end of 1976.

Most of those who have joined the campaign have pledged their help for seven years. It is designed to provide food and clothing, education and vocational training so that the child can grow into a useful member of the community.

Each sponsor gets a photograph of the child being helped, with personal details and progress reports.

Scottish gallery explains sale room mystery

By Our Sale Room Correspondent

The National Gallery of Scotland has paid an undisclosed sum for an oil painting, "Distressing for Rent", by Sir David Wilkie, Scotland's most distinguished nineteenth-century painter.

The painting goes on view today. It is regarded as an important "Scottish" acquisition. The announcement explains an art-world mystery last Friday when the painting was one of a group from Swinton Settled Estates for sale at Christie's. Despite a published estimate on the work of £15,000 to £18,000 Christie's bought it

back on behalf of the owner at a hammer price of 48,000 gns. Selling a painting directly to a national museum qualifies the vendor for substantial estate duty advantages. If the painting is purchased at auction these concessions are not available: the sale must be private. Thus the Scottish National Gallery told Christie's and the vendors before the sale of its willingness to buy privately and a reserve was set at £15,000. The picture commensurate with the sum it was prepared to spend, scaled up to allow for the estate duty concessions.

If the gallery had, say, £20,000 to spend that might mean as much for the owner as an open market bid of about £80,000. The precise figures depend on the average level of duty paid on the estate.

It appears that this is only the second time such a strategy has been used in a public auction. The first occasion concerned the purchase by the London National Gallery of Parmigianino's "Mystic Marriage of St Catherine" a year ago. It was bought in at Christie's at £273,000.

Since the purchase price has been disclosed in neither case quite how the strategy works is not yet a matter of public knowledge, though it is clearly advantageous both to the museum and the vendor.

Mr Colin Thomson, keeper of paintings at Edinburgh, said yesterday that although the gallery already owned Wilkie's "Distressing for Rent" and later works, it had no important example of the first flowering of his talent in London, where he swiftly attained one of the highest reputations of his day. Most of his works of that period were in the hands of private collectors or royal or noble clients.

"Distressing for Rent", painted in 1815, was immediately acquired by the British Institution for £630. At Christie's in 1880 it was sold for £2,310, a very high price for the time and equivalent to at least £20,000 in 1975 devalued currency.

After leaving the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital in Euston Road, London, after talking to staff and patients there yesterday. The hospital is threatened with closure.

It was founded by Elizabeth Garrett Anderson in 1872 and is one of only three in Britain where women can be sure that they will be treated by women doctors. However, it is small, with just over a hundred beds, and it occupies buildings in need of considerable renovation on a cramped one-acre site.

Its closure has been contemplated since at least 1959 and appeared imminent last December when the General Nursing Council withdrew its support for the hospital. After considerable protest, including a petition signed by 23,000 women, it was given a temporary reprieve in July.

After her visit Mrs Castle said the hospital required considerable expenditure to bring it up to a proper standard. Essential improvements such as new lifts and rewiring would cost £500,000 and it would cost £1 a year to run the hospital.

She said: "There is an urgent need for cost-effective-

Experiments with battery hen cages condemned

By Hugh Clayton, Agricultural Correspondent

Experiments using different kinds of cages for battery hens by a unit of the Agricultural Research Council were condemned yesterday by the National Society for the Abolition of Factory Farming. Mrs Lucy Newman, national organizer of the society, said the unit should concentrate on "the more natural and less cruel ways of intensive farming that are still largely unexplored."

News of the experiment at the Poultry Research Centre in Edinburgh was published yesterday in the annual report of the council. Researchers had tried to find out what size of cage and what type of cage-floor battery hens preferred. They also wanted to discover how many companions the birds wanted in the cages.

They gave the hens a choice between a wire mesh floor, discouraged by a government committee which feared cutting of the birds' feet, and a heavy floor without wires.

"The hens spent more time on the thin, close-meshed wire than on the recommended 'heavy' floor," the council said. "Probably because the closer spacing of the wires gave them a more secure footing."

Dr W. M. Henderson, secretary to the council, commented after publication: "The design of cages is at a very much earlier stage than the research from PRC on poultry nutrition. One hopes this new work will find its way into the industry."

Mrs Newman said: "We are totally against the concept of cooping chickens up in battery cages. It is ridiculous for the research centre to spend public money on reaching an obvious conclusion. Of course hens need a proper broad grip for their feet."

But this ignores the point that good intensive farming should not involve batteries at all. The answer is a more natural environment in which the chickens can live with others or other species in more or less natural conditions."

Food from waste: Scientists at the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Research Council are trying to interest food companies in a new process which could produce usable protein from factory waste. The authority has developed filters that can absorb protein from streams of waste from food factories. It found in laboratory trials that more than two thirds of usable protein in a stream of fish or dairy industry by-product, could be recovered.

Early decision is promised for women-only hospital

By a Staff Reporter

Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, promised an early decision on the future of the Elizabeth Garrett Anderson Hospital in Euston Road, London, after talking to staff and patients there yesterday. The hospital is threatened with closure.

It was founded by Elizabeth Garrett Anderson in 1872 and is one of only three in Britain where women can be sure that they will be treated by women doctors. However, it is small, with just over a hundred beds, and it occupies buildings in need of considerable renovation on a cramped one-acre site.

Its closure has been contemplated since at least 1959 and appeared imminent last December when the General Nursing Council withdrew its support for the hospital. After considerable protest, including a petition signed by 23,000 women, it was given a temporary reprieve in July.

After her visit Mrs Castle said the hospital required considerable expenditure to bring it up to a proper standard. Essential improvements such as new lifts and rewiring would cost £500,000 and it would cost £1 a year to run the hospital.

She said: "There is an urgent need for cost-effective-

ness in the National Health Service, and this hospital cannot justify itself on purely economic grounds."

However, Mrs Castle agreed that a decision to close the hospital could not be taken solely on economic grounds. Her visit has confirmed her impression that there is great affection for the hospital among its patients and that it has a special atmosphere. She quite understood the feelings of women who preferred to be treated by women doctors.

Asked whether that meant there were grounds for optimism about the survival of the hospital, she answered: "No. I prefer to begin to make up my mind now and in digest what I have seen today. However, I can promise a pretty early decision."

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Thatcher storage 'would have paid off'

By a Staff Reporter

The controversial advice a year ago by Mrs Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, to fight inflation by investing in tin can food, was more than that of any other investment in gold, building society deposits, national savings or government stock.

In the same issue, Mr O'Malley, Minister of State, Department of Health and Social Security, said in an interview that it is unlikely that any government in the foreseeable future will have the resources to reduce the retirement age of men to 60. It would cost £1,559m now, and even if such a sum was available he would not recommend that all of it should be used for that purpose.

Choice, in which the original interview with Mrs Thatcher appeared last December, calculates that an investment of £100 in the tin can food would be worth £115.76. That increase, the magazine says, is more than that of similar investment in gold, building society deposits, national savings or government stock.

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In the same issue, Mr O'Malley, Minister

WEST EUROPE

Italian Christian Democrats seek compromise on congress to avoid policy clash between factions

From Peter Nichols
Rome, Nov 25

The meaning of compromise today like the word itself is being redefined by the Italian Christian Democrats. They are seeking a middle ground between the two main factions of the party, the moderates and the radicals, who followed in the wake of the late Senator Fanfani. The party is now divided into two main camps: the moderates, who favour a gradualist approach to reform, and the radicals, who favour a more radical approach.

The main commander for his post was Senator Flaminio Piccoli, leader of the Christian Democratic Party in the Chamber of Deputies. He failed and the post went to the urbane Senator Zaccagnini who had made no effort on his own behalf to obtain it. Senator Fanfani and Senator Piccoli have since joined forces, with others, to oust the involuntary winner.

Their own political reaction to the Communists' gains was understood to be to hold a quick national congress to anchor the party to a conservative policy and to challenge the Communists. The party's supposed assurance that the voters would not make the same mistake twice, but would this time renew their support for the Christian Democrats.

Senator Zaccagnini's position, which is shared by Senator Aldo Moro, the Prime Minister, is that the party urgently requires reform. It has had virtually three decades of unbroken power and is showing the symptoms of a natural conservatism. It is a power-consciousness without much awareness of the country's requirements or opinions.

Senator Zaccagnini has been attempting to put this right. At the same time he is trying to impose a reasonably forward-looking policy on the party to save it from any danger of becoming simply the conservative pole opposed to the Communists.

Few people doubt the excellence of Senator Zaccagnini's intentions. He has repeatedly said that he will hand over the post once he has delivered a party improved in morale and in organization to the next national congress.

He might be faulted on tactics. It was noticeable, for instance, that his opening speech to the council on Sunday night expressed his own policy very clearly but he did the best he could not to be over-enthusiastic. He did not ask for a vote on the report.

Hence his opponents who might have felt embarrassed at the thought of voting against a generally praised report, could concentrate their fire on his idea of a March congress elected in a new and more open way, and insist on an earlier one elected on the old familiar lines.

Their political argument might well split the party if he insisted. He is in fact unlikely to take action which he thought would run such a risk, but he would also not want to permit too much compromising of his own ideas and ideals.

The code name he chose when in the wartime resistance movement was not for nothing "Thomas More".

Crisis in French social services as deficit endangers reflation plan

Hint of heavier burden on workers angers unions

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Nov 25

M Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the Finance Minister, is a man with a reputation for plain speaking. A few days ago, he made it clear that he did not wish the Government's reflation plan to be endangered by an increase in the already very heavy burden of contributions for social benefits borne by businesses.

The growing deficit of the French social security system, which this year is expected to reach 4,500m francs (about £300m) and top the 5,000m francs mark in 1976, must be filled by an increase in employees' contributions, he said.

This statement, which the minister took pains to say he made on his own responsibility, provoked an immediate outcry from trade unions, provisionally reunited by this "genuine provocation" and demonstration that the state, in the words of the Confédération Française Démocratique du Travail, "flies to the help of the employees".

It has also predictably prompted a violent reaction from the white collar workers' union, the Confédération Générale des Cadres which described it today as "a case of war". The union insisted that it was up to the state to finance out of its own revenue the unjustified burdens it placed upon the finances of the social security system.

M Fourcade was practically disowned by the Prime Minister over the weekend for speaking his mind on so explosive a subject. M Chirac emphasized that the Government had not reached a decision.

Politically, the minister's remarks had come at an awkward time when the Government is waiting for two official reports to decide whether it should carry out a radical reform or merely, as in the past, resort to expedients and half measures. His views inflame a debate which promises to be difficult in any case as everyone wants the benefits of comprehensive social security but no one wants to bear the extra cost.

M Michel Durafour, the Minister of Labour, admitted in the Senate yesterday that the social security system was at the end of its tether. "It will not be possible from 1976", he said, "to compensate a deficit on the current year by drawing into the reserves, for these will amount to three days' expenditure".

He added, however, that the reform of the finances of the system and that of the ceiling for the calculation of contributions would be linked, an indication that a real reform was intended.

The deficit of the national health branch of the system is as long lived in France as social security itself. But next year, for the first time, it will affect pensions and family allowances hitherto balanced or in surplus. The reason is that in a period of economic recession, contributions have fallen, and benefits, owing to inflation, have gone up.

The daily price of a hospital bed has gone up by between 20 and 40 per cent, according to region, and doctors' fees have risen by 20 per cent. The use of drugs has increased astronomically. If nothing is done to stop the rot, the rapporteur of the labour budget said in the Senate, a quarter of France's gross national product would be absorbed by social security expenditure in 10 years' time.

The employers claim—and the Finance Minister agrees with them—that the burden on firms cannot be increased without imperilling the economy. Social security contributions paid by employers have increased from 22 to 28 per cent of wages since 1945, while the employees' have remained practically unchanged at 6.5 per cent.

Whereas German and Dutch employers finance about one-third of their countries' social security bills, in France they account for half.

The alternative would be, as the Finance Minister suggested, for an employee's contributions to go up two points to 8.5 per cent but this would penalize the lower wage earners. If the taxpayer were to foot the bill, it would mean a 14 per cent increase in tax rates.

So the answer will probably be, as Le Monde suggests, a cocktail of different recipes—a pinch of economics, a pruning of benefits, a few drops of taxation, and a large spoonful of contributions.

New Zealand worried about dairy exports

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, Nov 25

New Zealand has expressed concern about the long-term prospect for its exports of dairy produce to Britain.

During consultations with the European Commission which ended in Brussels today, the New Zealand delegation led by Mr. Frank Corner, Foreign Affairs Secretary, called for an early decision on the amount of duty-free butter to be allowed into Britain after 1977, when present import arrangements are due to expire.

The Commission has proposed that Britain should be allowed to import an average of 121,000 tons of butter a year between 1973 and 1980, with quotas falling from 129,000 tons in the first year to 113,000 tons in the last. This has still to be approved by the Council of Ministers.

New Zealand's negotiators did not today question the reasonableness of the total three-year quota, but they were anxious that after 1980 there should be a guarantee of permanent access to the British market, on which they see New Zealand remaining heavily dependent for the foreseeable future.

EEC officials made clear that the diminishing-total aspect of their proposals was not negotiable. They also indicated that a final decision on butter quotas by the Council of Ministers was unlikely before next March.

The situation has been complicated by objections from the Dutch and the Danes, who export substantial quantities of butter to Britain and argue that the Commission's proposals are too generous to New Zealand.

New Zealand officials also raised today the question of continued access after 1980 to the British market for cheese, for which the Commission has so far made no proposals.

Italian police free kidnap victim after gun battle

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, Nov 25

Signor Carlo Travaglini, an engineer kidnapped by Sardinian bandits on October 28, was freed today after a gun battle near Orgosolo between his captors and a police patrol.

A man identified as Antonio Vedele was arrested. He was thought to have been involved in an earlier kidnapping. Signor Travaglini was kidnapped when leaving a restaurant with friends the day after he arrived in Sardinia from Milan. A ransom of 100m lire (£70,000) was said to have been paid when the victim was released.

This is one of the few cases in which the police have succeeded in freeing a hostage. There are still three people in the hands of kidnappers in Sardinia, including Signor Pietro Riccio, a Christian Democrat member of the national Parliament.

Illegal workers on hunger strike for Dutch amnesty

From Our Correspondent
The Hague, Nov 25

Thirty foreigners who are working illegally in The Netherlands are staging a hunger strike in a Roman Catholic church in The Hague, demanding an amnesty from the state. The strikers, who are mostly from Poland and 30 in Utrecht, together with Dutch sympathisers, have staged similar demonstrations in London, where this month.

They are protesting against the "regularization" scheme established by the Government to enable part of the estimated 150,000 illegal foreign workers to legalize their status in the country.

The scheme, which lapsed in mid-November, required those applying for a permit to establish that they had worked in Holland regularly for a period of time and had entered the country before this year. They were required to produce a certificate from their employer or employers, but most employers refused to issue any such certificates.

This is because many employers use illegal workers, particularly as seasonal or casual labour, in order to dodge the payment of deducted tax and social security premiums. This halves their wages bill but makes them liable to prosecution for fraud.

Organizations representing the foreign workers suspected that the regularization scheme was a trap to bait unsuspecting illegal workers into the arms of the immigration authorities. They advised them to ignore it, or at least to consult them first.

The workers on hunger strike are demanding an amnesty for illegal foreign labour, but the Government, facing record unemployment next year, fears an amnesty would lead to an influx of illegal labour at present working in Belgium and West Germany.

Ex-SS men accused of mass murder

From Dan van der Vat
Tonn, Nov 25

The commandant of the SS death camp at Majdanek in Poland, and 13 men and women subordinates face trial in Düsseldorf tomorrow on charges of murdering "at least" 50,000 Jews.

This is likely to be the last of the great Second World War mass-murder trials, the commandant, former SS Captain Hermann Hackmann, is the only death camp commander known to be alive.

The case, the most complex since the eight years in West Germany, could go on for two years or more. There are about 200 witnesses, including 10,000 pages of documents in 70 volumes.

The age and physical condition of the defendants could make the hearings an even more tedious aspect than usual. They include one other former officer and the camp doctor, as well as 13 women guards aged up to 40.

A few have already served sentences imposed by the Poles or the Western Allies. Herr Hackmann, a furniture salesman until his arrest, was condemned to death by the Americans and later reprieved. He was released from a life sentence in 1955.

Magistrate detains employer

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Nov 25

For the third time within a few weeks the proprietor of a business in France has been arrested while a young examining magistrate conducts an inquiry into the death of employees at work.

M André Lounzel, besides being the owner of the local stone quarry in La Boucardie, a small town near Rennes, is also the mayor, however, on the heels of an indignation protest by the local employers' confederation, the municipal council in La Boucardie today demanded the immediate freeing of M Lounzel while investigations continued. This evening it was announced that he would appeal to the courts against his detention.

Two workmen, died at the quarry on Friday when they were buried under a sudden fall of stones. A woman magistrate in her 30s, who ordered the detention of the quarry owner, has charged him with manslaughter and infraction of mine safety laws. She belongs to the French Magistrates' Association, which has criticized the courts publicly for an alleged leniency towards the "better-off" insured, it says, by a laxity over fatal accidents at work.

Expert urges gassing of foxes to defeat rabies

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Nov 25

With rabies continuing its ready aggression westwards across Europe, a World Health Organization expert said today that the only way "to break the chain of infection" is to gas foxes in their dens.

Dr Konrad Boegel, chief of WHO's veterinary section, repeated contentions that this could mean the extinction of the red fox in Europe and a steep rise in the rodent population. Research all over Europe the past eight years had shown that the fox could not be eliminated by control measures.

"Our programmes have proved that reduction of numbers leaves the survivors harder, less at risk from disease and hunting", he added. In certain ecological conditions—steep slopes and valleys—hunting can be efficient, but by gassing of fox dens can numbers be reduced to a level which will halt further transmission of the disease.

"It is far from easy, however, to have such control measures applied to an animal which, because of its role in fairy tales, is a place in the affections of European peoples, quite apart from the concerns of wildlife conservationists."

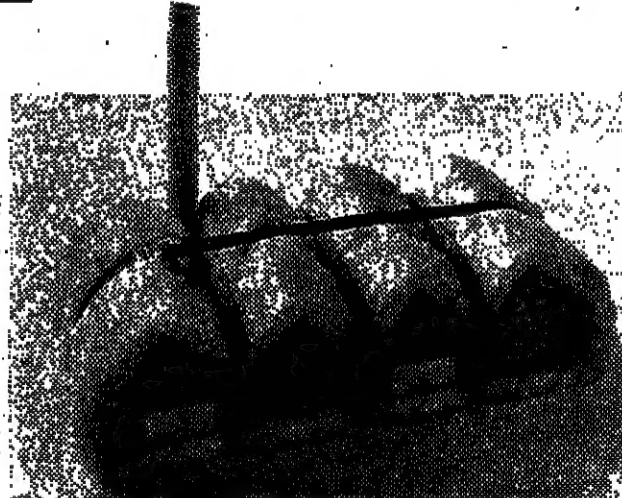
Cases of rabies are now being reported regularly in Switzerland among cattle, cats and, occasionally, among horses and dogs. All these outbreaks, Dr Boegel said, can be traced to foxes.

He said that rabid foxes often become seemingly very tame, approaching humans, even entering houses. A Paris couple holidaying in the Vosges had picked up and taken home with them a sick fox which had proved to be rabid.

Rabid cats or dogs were more likely to attack people. His advice to tourists was to be wary of domestic animals encountered in the woods. While rural dwellers were generally informed of the danger, there was need for greater public awareness of the situation.

He added that the present epidemic started 30 to 40 years ago in Central Europe, particularly Poland, and had since moved westwards at the rate of 15 to 30 miles a year. But he dismissed as conjectural a report of a possibly rabid raven attacking walkers in northern Switzerland. The risk of birds transmitting the disease was "practically zero".

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capital expenditure (incurred after 12th November 1974) on adding insulation against loss of heat to an existing industrial building. This applies to installation costs as well as the cost of materials.

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If you have any doubts on whether your company qualifies for this allowance contact your Inspector of Taxes.

Department of Energy.



PROPERTY also on page 9

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OVERSEAS

Bishop heartened by churches' shift on violence in Africa

From Our Correspondent
Nairobi, Nov 25

The Bishop of Truro, the Right Rev Graham Leonard, one of the British delegates to the World Council of Churches Assembly in Nairobi, said today that the Church of England remained committed to the council, while being critical of some of its policies, such as the support of liberation groups in Africa under the programme to combat racism.

He was, however, heartened at what he considered a discernible shift in the present assembly away from the proposition that violence is a necessary factor in achieving human rights in Africa. This was in contrast to the impression given by the council in its literature on the subject.

Christians in Britain did not want to see the programme to combat racism abolished. "The crucial question is whether a church or an individual Christian can ever support violence," he said. "I am a Christian living in the world we have got to get involved in the world. But that is different from an endorsement of violence as the Christian way of dealing with the world."

The assembly is being pressed to act positively to help Christians in the Soviet Union who are being persecuted. A letter from the Orthodox Church, written by a priest, but signed by a layman, Father Lev Regelson, both of Moscow, has been sent to the council with a plea for help.

While the matter is certain to be discussed by the assembly, WCC sources have defended the council against accusations of inaction. They emphasized that the question had been raised on many occasions and direct representations had been made to

the Soviet Government usually without response.

As the WCC has member churches in the Soviet Union and in Eastern Europe, the integrity of these churches must be accepted. However, the receipt of an appeal from inside the Soviet Union as distinct from those from bodies outside that country, strengthens the case for further representation.

The latest letter, which has attracted wide interest among delegates, urges them to initiate specific action, ranging from press meetings to sending protest letters to bring the persecution of Russian Christians to international attention.

It also asks the WCC to press for permission for "exhausted" Christians to emigrate from the Soviet Union somewhere where they would be allowed to work and observe their religion in peace.

It calls for action to end psychiatric torture and for pressure on the Soviet Government to permit the circulation of the Bible and other religious literature.

In 1965, Father Yakunin was the co-author of an open letter on the internal situation of the Russian Orthodox Church. He was expelled for a priest but signed by a layman, Father Lev Regelson, both of Moscow, has been sent to the council with a plea for help.

The two Russian churchmen criticized the WCC for failing to raise its voice against past persecutions of Christians in the Soviet Union, and in Albania.

The persecutors of Christians are now extraordinarily concerned about their international reputation, they are trying very hard to prevent any possible protest—for example by slandering the confessing Christians.

The letter calls for an international protest campaign against the persecution of Christians.

Rivals embrace as Surinam hoists flag of independence

Paramaribo, Nov 25—Surinam

became the world's newest independent state today in a spectacular open-air ceremony marked by the tearful public reconciliation of the country's two main rivals for political power.

Mr Henck Arron, the black Prime Minister, and Mr Jagerath Lachmon, the Indian Opposition leader, embraced and kissed before thousands of their supporters in a big football stadium here.

The 25,000 people packing the stadium danced and cheered as the Dutch flag was lowered for the last time and the new Surinam tricolour, with

a central golden star, was raised and fluttered in a breeze, marking the end of 225 years of colonial domination. Brilliant fireworks lit the night sky.

Fears that the independence celebrations could be marred by violence and bloodshed between politically opposed racial groups were quelled last week when the two leaders put aside their differences to frame a national constitution.

Representatives attending the celebrations included Prince Beatrix of Holland, the last country to rule the 54,000-square mile South American territory.—Reuter.

Mr Fraser delays campaign because of influenza

From Our Correspondent
Melbourne, Nov 25

Mr Malcolm Fraser, the caretaker Prime Minister, called off his campaign speech today at Moorabbin town hall, in a suburb of Melbourne, because of a severe attack of influenza. He will officially open the campaign in Melbourne on Thursday.

Mr Fraser's doctors ordered him to cancel all engagements today and tomorrow. He developed influenza during his tour to Darwin last week and has had a high temperature since.

It is believed that one of the key policy lines of the Liberals will be a new and higher home services grant for young people. The Thursday election speech is expected to promise to restore the home savings grant which was \$4750 (4688) when

it was abolished by the former Government.

It is expected to concentrate on economic issues, and pledge to introduce tax reforms and impose rigid controls on government administration to cut down spending. It is also expected to promise the restoration of the superannuation bounty for farmers which was abolished by the Labour government.

Mr Fraser said today from his sickbed that he could promise one thing that "White Australia" would be a thing of the past. Responsibility and honesty in government.

He accused Mr Whitlam of ignoring basic bread and butter issues in his policy speech last night. "He ignores young people who can no longer buy homes, the elderly and the retired. He behaved as though the sins of his Government did not exist."

Iceland vow to defend the fishing limit

Continued from page 1

Reykjavik, Nov 25—Iceland vowed tonight to defend its 200-mile fishing limit "even against the might of the British Navy."

Mr Hallgrímsson, the Prime Minister, denounced Britain's decision to send frigates into the zone as "unmarked armed violence" and called it "a striking violation of the NATO Treaty and the Helsinki Declaration." He conceded that his country's Coast Guard, which has only three small patrol vessels, was no match for the powerful frigates.—Reuter.

Our Agricultural Correspondent writes: Government officials in London made a point of trying to discredit Icelandic reports about depletion of fish stocks. They said that the publication in Iceland of scientific evidence immediately before a meeting with the British Government was intimidating.

The similarity between that supposedly impartial evidence and the demands of the Icelandic Government was remarkable. The combination of timing and content was highly suspect.

The British Government is determined to stop Iceland turning an argument about what Britain regards as international waters into one about Icelandic rights alone.

Mr Crosland in Japan

Tokyo, Nov 25—Mr Crosland, the Environment Secretary, arrived here today for a six-day visit at the invitation of the Japanese Government.

Moroccan monarch gives hint on future of Gibraltar to King Hassan is waiting for Algeria to make war over Sahara

From Robert Fisk
Rabat, Nov 25

King Hassan of Morocco, elated by the success of his country's peaceful march into the Spanish Sahara and by Spain's subsequent decision to cede the territory to Morocco and Mauritania, today said he would not be satisfied if Algeria made war on him.

Morocco was also prepared, if necessary, for a long struggle with Algerian-backed guerrillas in the desert, he told a televised press conference.

Referring to President Boumedienne's expressed determination not to allow Morocco to take over the phosphate-rich desert, King Hassan, speaking in a palace hall thronged with uniformed army officers, said that if the Algerian leader's statements were to be taken seriously, he was "waiting for Algeria to make war on us."

He went on: "If the Algerian Government decides to make war, I would not really be surprised."

King Hassan also made vague but none the less worrying suggestions about his country's future policy towards Gibraltar. If Spain were to gain possession of Gibraltar, he said, then Ceuta and Melilla, the two Spanish enclaves in North Africa, would be returned to Morocco.

There has for some days been speculation in Rabat that the coming of the two towns was also part of the Sahara agreement. The King strenuously denied that any secret deals had been entered into over Gibraltar but said he was "sorry for our British friends but logically Gibraltar must also go back to Spain."

The King announced his press conference nearly a week ago and therefore had plenty of time to weigh the implications and possible results of his words. Indeed, the Moroccan Government paid the expenses of a number of journalists who were invited to Rabat this morning. Since he has until now remained particularly reticent about Moroccan-Algerian relations, the King's statements deserve to be taken with some seriousness.

He showed contempt for the Algerian Government, saying that the Algerian population had co-operated in an attempt to stop hashish smuggling, although they gave no further details.

Our Madrid Correspondent writes: Spain, Morocco and Mauritania began putting their three-power agreement on the Sahara into effect today as Spanish troops once again encircled the native quarter of the capital, El Aaiun, with tanks and barbed wire.

The Moroccan Lieutenant Governor, Mr Ahmed Bensouda, conferred with the Spanish Governor, Lieutenant Colonel Gomez de Salazar in the capital, while they awaited the arrival of the Mauritanian Lieutenant Governor, Mr Abdullah Ould Cheji.

The arrival of Mr Bensouda, director of King Hassan's privy council, caused a stir among the Saharan people. He came by car, in a convoy of 50 vehicles with about 100 civilian assistants, accompanied by a heavily armed Moroccan military escort. Spanish troops were obliged to remove mines from the main road between Tifariti and the capital, El Aaiun, and to clear the area of the "Green March" and El Aaiun to let the convoy pass. A Moroccan television team carefully recorded the trip on film and tape.

The King was also asked about allegations in British newspapers that he and his family were involved in the production of hashish which had found its way to Britain. He said the allegations were false, that they had been made by President Boumedienne, and that he did not own the land referred to in the British press.

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King Hassan of Morocco, elated by the success of his country's peaceful march into the Spanish Sahara and by Spain's subsequent decision to cede the territory to Morocco and Mauritania, today said he would not be satisfied if Algeria made war on him.

Morocco was also prepared, if necessary, for a long struggle with Algerian-backed guerrillas in the desert, he told a televised press conference.

Referring to President Boumedienne's expressed determination not to allow Morocco to take over the phosphate-rich desert, King Hassan, speaking in a palace hall thronged with uniformed army officers, said that if the Algerian leader's statements were to be taken seriously, he was "waiting for Algeria to make war on us."

He went on: "If the Algerian Government decides to make war, I would not really be surprised."

King Hassan also made vague but none the less worrying suggestions about his country's future policy towards Gibraltar. If Spain were to gain possession of Gibraltar, he said, then Ceuta and Melilla, the two Spanish enclaves in North Africa, would be returned to Morocco.

There has for some days been speculation in Rabat that the coming of the two towns was also part of the Sahara agreement. The King strenuously denied that any secret deals had been entered into over Gibraltar but said he was "sorry for our British friends but logically Gibraltar must also go back to Spain."

The King announced his press conference nearly a week ago and therefore had plenty of time to weigh the implications and possible results of his words. Indeed, the Moroccan Government paid the expenses of a number of journalists who were invited to Rabat this morning. Since he has until now remained particularly reticent about Moroccan-Algerian relations, the King's statements deserve to be taken with some seriousness.

He showed contempt for the Algerian Government, saying that the Algerian population had co-operated in an attempt to stop hashish smuggling, although they gave no further details.

Our Madrid Correspondent writes: Spain, Morocco and Mauritania began putting their three-power agreement on the Sahara into effect today as Spanish troops once again encircled the native quarter of the capital, El Aaiun, with tanks and barbed wire.

The Moroccan Lieutenant Governor, Mr Ahmed Bensouda, conferred with the Spanish Governor, Lieutenant Colonel Gomez de Salazar in the capital, while they awaited the arrival of the Mauritanian Lieutenant Governor, Mr Abdullah Ould Cheji.

The arrival of Mr Bensouda, director of King Hassan's privy council, caused a stir among the Saharan people. He came by car, in a convoy of 50 vehicles with about 100 civilian assistants, accompanied by a heavily armed Moroccan military escort. Spanish troops were obliged to remove mines from the main road between Tifariti and the capital, El Aaiun, and to clear the area of the "Green March" and El Aaiun to let the convoy pass. A Moroccan television team carefully recorded the trip on film and tape.

The King was also asked about allegations in British newspapers that he and his family were involved in the production of hashish which had found its way to Britain. He said the allegations were false, that they had been made by President Boumedienne, and that he did not own the land referred to in the British press.

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OVERSEAS

Dr Kissinger warns Soviet Union against straining détente and defends the intelligence services

Dr Henry Kissinger, the American Secretary of State, warned the Soviet Union against straining détente and defended the intelligence services in a speech to the United States Congress on Tuesday.

Mr Kissinger said that the United States was committed to a policy of détente with the Soviet Union, but that this policy must be based on mutual respect and a balance of power. He warned that any attempt by the Soviet Union to undermine détente would be met with a firm response.

He also defended the intelligence services, saying that they were essential for the United States to maintain its security and to understand the intentions of other nations.

Of Angola and détente he said: "Time is running out. Continuation of an interventionist policy must inevitably threaten other relationships, the single out Cuba, which the Administration accuses of sending up to 250,000 troops to Angola for a special warning. The new American policy of conciliation towards Dr Castro, he said, would not survive a Cuban meddling in Africa or Latin America."

All of this reflected a considerable softening of the Administration's public concern towards Angola which it had seemed content to let drift. The prospect of victory for the Soviet-backed MPLA has prompted a domino type reflex in Dr Kissinger. He is concerned that African leaders who a decade ago saw America backing as a key to success, will now conclude that Soviet support is the wave of the future. Perhaps that is why he also announced today that next year he hopes to make his first visit to Africa in the seven years he has been in government.

Counterattacking after the Senate committee's publication of American involvement in foreign assassination plots, Dr Kissinger last night insisted that "We must resist the myth that government is a gigantic conspiracy."

He added: "We cannot allow the intelligence services of this country to be dismantled."

Dr Kissinger admitted that institutions could be "cleansed" and abuses overcome. But he declared: "In a world where totalitarianism is a reality, the government cannot be a mere bystander. It must take action to protect the people and the principles of democracy."

At his news conference today, he also denounced as a "disgrace" an editorial in the current issue of *Aviation Week and Space Technology* which accused President Ford and himself of deceiving the public over Soviet "violations" of strategic arms agreements. Dr Kissinger recently gained, in this dispute, the backing of James Schlesinger, the dismissed Defence Secretary, who agreed that whatever violations could be complained of were of the spirit rather than the letter of the agreements.

Dr Kissinger insisted that there was not a single "alleged" violation that had not been taken up with the Soviet Union. He also insisted that the Soviet Union could not build up an irresistible offensive against the United States through Salt violations.

Disagreeing with a report in *The New York Times*, he said that he had not given up pursuit of a Golan Heights agreement between Syria and Israel.

Mr Karami tries again to end Beirut bloodshed

From Paul Martin
Beirut, Nov 25

Mr Karami, the Lebanese Prime Minister, tried again today to start political talks among the warring factions as street fighting in the capital continued without respite.

In a carefully worded address to Parliament aimed at healing the wounds opened by the latest outbreak of war in the streets, he appealed to all to help end the bloodshed.

Violence in the streets prevented half the 93 members of the Chamber of Deputies from attending the session. Most of those who turned up arrived in armoured personnel carriers or bullet proof cars, with bodyguards armed with automatic weapons at their side. Mr Kamille Chamoun, the Interior Minister, was flanked by two of his militiamen as he entered the chamber.

As Mr Karami spoke, a fierce gun battle erupted in Marjeh Square, scene of some of the most intense fighting in the past few days, only a few hundred yards from Parliament House. Christian and Muslim militiamen battled for control of the square, which is at the top of the "green line" that divides the two communities.

Although there was a mild improvement in the situation in the capital this morning, the streets remained unsafe, with frequent rocket, mortar and machine gun duels erupting in sensitive areas and spreading rapidly.

At least 15 people were killed and 60 wounded in the fighting. This was slightly fewer than the daily average recorded during the past four days of heavy fighting.

Mr Karami's latest peace pleas were obviously aimed at ending an atmosphere more conducive to discussions between the bitterly opposed factions. It was in sharp contrast to his tough stand yesterday in which he accused Mr Chamoun



Under cover: leftist gunmen in Beirut use umbrellas to keep off the rain.

and President Frangieh openly of sabotaging his attempts to arrest the rapidly deteriorating situation in the country.

It remained unclear what would be the fate of the National Reconciliation Committee which gave up in despair yesterday after Mr Chamoun and Mr Karami, jointly, the leftist leader, boycotted it. So far no new date has been fixed for the committee, which is made up of all shades of political opinion, to meet again.

Urging the political leaders to make a serious attempt to get down to the basic issues of the crisis, Mr Karami said force was no solution. He also rejected any talk of partition of the country between the Christian and Muslim populations. "What we must do now is to talk to each other and agree on political, economic and social reforms," he said. After that the Government could work with the Palestinian guerrillas on the questions of security and sovereignty.

By nightfall the situation in the capital had again deteriorated with clashes spreading to most of the areas that had been the scene of heavy fighting in the past four days. "Things are getting worse by the minute and more and more armed men are appearing on the streets," an officer at the security headquarters reported.

Guilty Afrikaans poet apologizes to court

From Nicholas Ashford
Pretoria, Nov 25

Mr Breyten Breytenbach, the Afrikaans poet and writer, was today found guilty of conspiring to overthrow the South African Government. In a three-minute summing up, Mr Justice Cillie told a packed courtroom in Pretoria that the prosecution had shown beyond reasonable doubt that Mr Breytenbach had taken part in "terroristic acts" between December, 1972, and August, 1973. Sentence is expected to be passed tomorrow.

Mr Breytenbach, who pleaded guilty to a main charge under the Terrorism Act when the trial started in Friday, faces a minimum of five years in prison.

In a statement from the witness box after his conviction, Mr Breytenbach apologized for "the ridiculous and stupid things I have done". He said he wanted to "apologize sincerely to the people I have hurt, unintentionally and without knowing, by what I have said or written."

"I specially wish to apologize to the Prime Minister for an insulting poem which was addressed to him," he said. "There was, and is, no justification for it. I am sorry."

Mr Breytenbach explained that his actions were not aimed at South Africa but against that which he considered unjust. He was never motivated by any political ambitions. "I now realize that the way in which I tried to work for the growth of our South African civilization and future, and the methods which I employed, were wrong," he said.

Outlining his personal history, Mr Breytenbach said he had developed a "love-hate" relationship with South Africa during the 13 years he lived in self-imposed exile in Paris with his Vietnamese wife, Yolande. In 1964 his wife's application for a visa to visit South Africa was refused and that was the beginning of his ambivalent relationship with his country.

As an "uprooted boer" in Paris, other exiles were attracted to him and he became committed to their cause. "That which brought us together was apartheid," he said, adding that he gradually became involved in the activities which led to his appearance in court.

The main charge against Mr Breytenbach was that he helped to found an organization whose aim was to remove the South African Government, by force if necessary, and install a black regime in its place. The organization was allied to the banned African National Congress whose leader, Mr Nelson Mandela, is serving a life sentence on Robben Island.

Mr Breytenbach ended his statement by thanking the police for the "correct and human way he was treated." "Their courteous conduct made these traumatic three months bearable for me," he said.

Four more South Africans die on Angolan border

From Our Own Correspondent
Johannesburg, Nov 25

Four more South African soldiers were killed last week-end in the Angolan-South West African border, defence headquarters announced today. A captain, two non-commissioned officers and a trooper died in a "hot pursuit" action against "terrorists," the statement added.

It claimed that 15 guerrillas were also killed and a considerable quantity of weapons and ammunition of Soviet origin captured. Significantly, this is the first time South African officials have mentioned "hot pursuit" in a defence communiqué, giving a clear impression that the troops had crossed over the border into Angola.

No further details about the "terrorists" were given although it is presumed they were members of the South-West African People's Organization (Swapo) which has been operating from inside the Angolan border. The latest deaths bring to nine the number of South African servicemen killed along the border in the past two weeks. A further five died in the border area last month.

The sharp increase in the casualty rate has reinforced suspicions here that the South African forces are involved in more than just policing the border. Although, allegations that South Africa is intervening on the side of the Angolan

National Liberation Front (FNL) and the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita) against the Soviet-backed Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) are still officially denied. It seems evident that the FNL/Unita force which has been advancing towards Luanda from the south is receiving more than just moral support from South Africa.

The Defence Department declined to comment on an MPLA claim that it had captured black South African troops.

Luanda, Nov 25.—MPLA forces have fought pitched battles with troops from an armoured column which has penetrated Angolan territory from South Africa, its military headquarters announced here today.

The MPLA's military wing said that fierce fighting with the column, said to be spearheaded by South African mercenaries, took place "recently" about 250 miles south of Luanda. Eighty troops of the armoured column were killed, it claimed, in battles around Gabela, a town in the coffee-growing province of Cuanza Sul. It added that a number of South Africans were taken prisoner.

Lagos, Nov 25.—Nigeria today recognized the MPLA as the government of Angola, an official announcement said.—Reuters.

Senator sees no plan to aid New York

From Frank Vogl
Washington, Nov 25

Senator William Proxmire, an important proponent of the Senate committee on banking, housing and urban affairs, stated today that he saw no plan to aid New York City in its financial crisis.

Mr Proxmire said that the Senate committee was not involved in the city's financial problems and that it was not its responsibility to provide aid.

He said that the city's financial crisis was a result of its own mismanagement and that it was not the fault of the federal government.

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Slogans painted on statue of Churchill

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, Nov 25

Three men were caught red-handed outside the British Embassy here last night painting a slogan on the pavement and the plinth of the statue of Sir Winston Churchill.

One of the men is Mr Phillip Barrigan, a former Roman Catholic priest, who played a role in the anti-war movement in the 1960s and was the target of much Nixonian hostility.

The slogan on the plinth, which has now been removed, was "Disarm or dig graves" and was apparently sprayed on with red paint. Mr Barrigan was arrested by the Executive Protection Service and charged with desecrating the property of a foreign government.

The relevance of Mr Barrigan's slogan to the British Government or to Sir Winston Churchill is not immediately apparent. This is not the first time that a troublesome gesture that he has made in Washington recently.

25 drowned
Lagos, Nov 25.—Twenty-five members of a religious sect were found drowned after a boat caught fire while crossing a lagoon at Epe.

Chinese campaign to breed more pigs

From David Bonavia
Beijing, Nov 25

Pigs should be going to market in China, according to an authoritative statement from the Peking press. Communist officials have been urged not to discourage the peasants from breeding pigs.

It is an important contribution to the supply of meat and fertilizer. The pig is the dozen of the farmyard animals.

It is also the source of important export earnings. By-products such as bristles and dings help to finance the port of airfares and grain, among other things.

Chairman Mao Tse-tung has praised the pig as "a small-scale organic fertilizer factory". Although no statistics are published, it is clear that pigs bred on the peasants' private plots make up an important share of the total. According to what ever political holds sway in Peking, private breeding may be discouraged as "a capitalist tendency" or promoted as a patriotic act.

Just now, as the country embarks on a new campaign to modernize its agriculture, the policy is to "encourage more collective breeding, but not at the expense of the private

Mr Callaghan tells Kuwait inflation is being defeated

From Edmund Stevens
Moscow, Nov 25

A new round in the sporadic Soviet efforts towards reconvening the Geneva Middle East peace conference seems to be getting under way with the arrival in Moscow of Mr Yasser Arafat, the leader of the Palestine Liberation Organization.

Since his rather inconclusive visit here last spring, the Kremlin has upgraded the PLO by endorsing the "national rights" of the Palestinians. But Mr Arafat's reception this time is still low key: no photographs or biographies in the press, just two brief sentences in *Pravda* headed "Guests from Palestine" reporting his arrival and modest welcome at the airport. No red carpet, guard of honour, or car procession.

Mr Callaghan brought no specific plans for British projects in Kuwait, like those he took to Saudi Arabia. The Kuwait Government has an investment office in London, which handles a great deal of oil money.

According to the sources, the Kuwait Government's dispute with British Petroleum and Gulf Oil over the Kuwait Oil Company (KOC) did not come up during the talks today.

The Kuwait Government, which already owns 60 per cent of KOC, wants to take over the remaining 40 per cent from the two companies but negotiations on the terms were deadlocked earlier this month.—Reuters.

Moscow may put pressure on PLO chief

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Arab sources here predict that the Soviet play this time will be to try to persuade Mr Arafat to reconsider his uncompromising stance and come round to the Soviet position that all Middle East states have a right to exist, including Israel. The Russians fully realize that so long as the Palestinians refuse to accept this, a resumption of the Geneva negotiations is impossible.

Israel's recognition of the PLO, and willingness to sit down at the table with them, would be the counterpart. To this end, the Soviet Union would expect Washington to accord the PLO some kind of recognition and persuade the Israelis to relent.

The next move in the drama envisages all parties going to Geneva on an equal footing without preconditions. To facilitate this, the Russians have muted their attacks on the Sinai disengagement.

All this may sound far-fetched or over-optimistic, but the more moderate Arab observers here, including Egyptians, believe that if the two co-chairmen of the Geneva conference use their power effectively it could come about. Moscow is especially anxious to regain the initiative in the Middle East.

The chances of positive developments during the present Arafat visit seem favoured by the presence of Mr Faruk al-Kaddumi, sometimes referred to as the PLO's foreign minister. Though tough and combative, he is reputed to be more flexible than his difficult chief.

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PARLIAMENT, November 25, 1975

Changing of the Guard only in the summer

House of Commons
MR HUNT (Bromley, Ravensbourne, C) asked if the Secretary of State for Defence would take steps to ensure that the changing of the guard ceremony at Buckingham Palace could be fully maintained on a day during 1976.

MR ROBERT BROWN (Newcastle upon Tyne, West, Lab) — Regrettably the level of operational readiness of the Guard is such that it is not possible to ensure that the ceremony takes place daily during April to September which is the main ceremonial season.

MR HUNT — Does he realize the intense disappointment caused to tourists and many other visitors to London who come to the Palace only to find that there is no ceremony on that day? Surely our defence must be an ever more serious state than we had imagined if we cannot muster a band of ceremonial troops on a day to perform a major ceremonial function for our country?

MR BROWN — He underestimates the effort that goes into the changing of the Guard ceremony. While the primary role of the Household troops in London is to maintain the ceremonial function, it is necessary to train for operational duties and to allow for periodic leave. Additionally, there is a commitment in respect of security duties particularly in Northern Ireland and with the United Nations forces.

MR LIFTON (Lambeth, Central, Lab) — How much does it cost to put this ceremony on a day when the main tourist attractions in London and his indecisive reply that we are going to have it for one month on average, but at times when the public are not informed beforehand is going to cause a lot of disappointment to children and adults? Cheers.

MR BROWN — I could not give offhand how much it costs but whatever the cost it is well worth it. The majority of people of this country would agree with me. Mr Lifton is being less than fair in suggesting that the ceremony is simply going to have the Changing of the Guard ceremony at odd intervals. We will do it throughout the summer tourist season.

MR TOWNSEND (Bexley, Bexleyheath, C) — Can I persuade the Minister to review the situation? No less than 100 regular troops are employed on guard duty at London and Windsor on an average day. It is time that some of these duties, particularly in London, were given over by such personnel as Beefeaters. It is high time that the experienced and well trained soldiers were employed on guard duty at London and Windsor on an average day.

MR BROWN — We have just about got it right.

Parliamentary notices

House of Commons
Today at 2.30: Prevention of Terrorism (Terrorism) Bill (Continued).
Today at 2.30: Prevention of Terrorism (Terrorism) Bill (Continued).
Today at 2.30: Prevention of Terrorism (Terrorism) Bill (Continued).

House of Lords
Today at 2.30: Debate on the Queen's Speech.

Eire forces cooperating

MR BIGGS-DAVISON (Epping Forest, C) asked the Secretary of State for Defence whether the British Army is cooperating with the Irish Army in Northern Ireland, with particular reference to South Armagh.

MR ROBERT BROWN (Newcastle upon Tyne, West, Lab) — Under the terms of the Anglo-Irish Agreement, the British Army is cooperating with the Irish Army in Northern Ireland, with particular reference to South Armagh.

Extra security measures are in force in South Armagh following the recent terrorist attack. The particular killing of three young soldiers and wounding of a fourth on Saturday. The House will join in commendation of the troops in the strongest possible terms and expressing admiration of the outstanding courage of these soldiers.

Tribute to police for remarkable run of success against terrorism

House of Lords
LORD HARRIS of GREEN-GLADE, Minister of State, Home Office, resuming the debate on the Bill dealing with the powers of the police, the initial investigation of complaints would remain with the police, but the legislation would establish an independent body with a police procedure an independent body with members appointed by the Home Secretary.

The Government believed there had been a need to strike the right balance because there was a widely recognized case for an independent body to investigate complaints against the police. It would further strengthen public confidence in the police at a time when there were complaints with difficult problems.

The most immediate problem confronting this country was that of terrorism. The police had been the principal target for the moment, but as explosions took place at Birmingham only a year ago, it demonstrated that any British city could find itself involved in the IRA campaign of indiscriminate murder.

The problem of terrorism (the went on) is the major preoccupation of every police force in Britain and it is right to pay tribute to the police for the remarkable run of success they have had in the past year.

The problem was not unique to Britain for terrorist violence was being experienced by every other major industrial country in the West. This, and the sometimes related menace of kidnapping, often political in purpose but also for money, was a constant threat to police forces in all countries.

This is why the added it is desirable to ensure that the closest collaboration between the police and the law enforcement agencies of the developed world. Discussions of this matter can be extremely valuable in formulating our response to the dangerous new problems that confront us.

Great skill

This did not mean they had slavishly to attempt techniques used by other police forces as they were sometimes very different. In the Spaghetti House siege, the police were able to consider their response on the basis of other forces in dealing with similar situations and later they were able to pass on their own experience to

UK unity the essence and inspiration of devolution proposals

MR DALYELL (West Lothian, Lab), during questions to the Prime Minister on devolution, said: Will he bring all his powers of scepticism to bear on the over-simplistic approach of certain politicians purporting to give the views of the Scottish people?

If we are asked in the vaguest terms, do we want more say in our own affairs we naturally say "Yes". If the question is put—do we want to pay more rates and taxes for yet another centralized bureaucracy in Edinburgh the answer is "No".

MR HAROLD WILSON (Huyton, Lab) — Yes.

MR THORPE (North Devon, Lab) — Would he satisfy the curiosity of people in Scotland and outside whether he felt the fact that television commentators and newspaper reporters today received a copy of the report on devolution?

It is incredible that on Thursday MPs in all parts will be asked to give instant judgment on a highly complicated document which the media and public have been able to study for an indefinite period. (Cheers.)

MR WILSON — Will inquire into what Mr Thorpe has said. It is a serious question.

The question of confidential early revision has been for some time. I have been critical of it, sometimes for the reasons Mr Thorpe has given.

I know there is concern in the House not least because some of the revision did their way into the White Paper. It is a serious question.

MR DONALD STEWART (Weston, Lab) — On the Prime Minister's visit to Scotland, what will his attitude be for the sell-out of the promise of a devolution Bill?

MR WILSON — There is no sell-out on devolution. The White Paper will be published on Thursday. We want the House to have an early opportunity for a full debate upon it. We want a great national debate in Scotland, Wales and England—in Britain.

We propose to introduce this Bill in the light of that debate. We would hope we can make some progress on it. I cannot see any other way of doing it.

MR HAROLD WILSON — We have a long way to go in the negotiations before anyone can hope to save any part of the White Paper. It is a serious question.

We are striving with might and main to get the Government on it. It is possible, certainly to save

and conveying our deepest sympathy to their families and friends. The security forces will do every possible effort to bring those responsible for these despicable outrages to justice.

MR BIGGS-DAVISON — What progress has the Government made in the Eire Army the same good cooperation as exists between the RUC and Garda? If that cooperation is being maintained, it would be authorized to fire on terrorists and hotly pursue them across the border, they are entitled to do under international law?

MR JUD — I emphasize that we are receiving excellent cooperation from the security forces of the Republic and I would not want to go any further than that because it would be foolish to impede the type of cooperation we are receiving.

The Irish police in the case of the Northern kidnapping. The Metropolitan Police had demonstrated great skill over the kidnapping.

As a country the said are perhaps a little too addicted to present to neurotic self-criticism. When something goes outstandingly well, it is not right to pay tribute to the men and women involved.

The Government have given rise for serious concern, crimes of violence which caused the greatest public concern accounted to only a 2 per cent of the total and did not constitute the fastest growing type of crime. Sexual crimes had stopped the past year.

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Programme that will do nothing but damage

MR GOREY (Kirkcaldy, Lab) — The Prime Minister's words last Thursday on the subject of the Queen's Speech, moved an amendment to the Address which said: "But humbly regret that the Government's proposals for a new programme of devolution, which would increase the powers of a centralized bureaucracy and diminish the freedom of the citizens."

He said the inadequacy of the economic policies followed in the Queen's Speech was made clear by the fact that the unemployment rate had risen to 10 per cent. The Prime Minister's backward-looking speech, Mr Gorey said, was a waste of time and energy. He said that the Government's proposals for a new programme of devolution, which would increase the powers of a centralized bureaucracy and diminish the freedom of the citizens.

In human terms the striking and yet inescapable feature must be the high and rising level of unemployment. There was the continuing stagnation of production and the inescapable reduction in the level of living standards. The Prime Minister made some reference to that. It was a pity he was not more explicit.

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So far, the 56 pay limit had not had a marked impact on the inflation rate. It had not reached agreement in this July they would have seen inflation rising at 10 per cent by the end of the year. The year on year rate of inflation should drop steadily throughout 1976 to under 10 per cent by the end of the year, providing there was no unacceptable, major increase in import prices.

Three million people had already settled for rises of 10 or less, an average of 7 per cent. The Government's wisdom in seeking a voluntary agreement with the unions rather than relying on legal sanctions was being proved.

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Appointments Vacant also on page 26

GENERAL VACANCIES

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

An Executive Officer

is required to be responsible, under supervision, for the preparation for annual reprinting of the Regulations for Degree Examinations. The work would involve editing and checking printers' proofs and requires meticulous attention to detail. The person appointed would be a member of the Section serving the Academic Council, which is one of the senior committees of the University Council, and would be responsible for the preparation of the Regulations for Degree Examinations. The person appointed would be responsible for the preparation of the Regulations for Degree Examinations. The person appointed would be responsible for the preparation of the Regulations for Degree Examinations.

Applicants must have a good general education, particularly in regard to the English language. A knowledge of printing is essential and experience in the preparation of material for printing would be useful.

Salary according to age and qualifications within the range of £2,301-£2,856 p.a. plus £200 p.a. London Allowance and pension. Four weeks' annual leave plus extra days at bank holidays.

Application forms from ELAINE LEGGETT, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON, SENATE HOUSE, MALET STREET, LONDON, WC1E 7HU. TELEPHONE: 01-636 8000. CLOSING DATE: 8 DECEMBER.

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

Administrative Assistant

The R.I.B.A. requires a ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT (a) to assist in the day-to-day running of the Institute and (b) to assist in the preparation of the Institute's publications. The person appointed will be responsible for the preparation of the Institute's publications. The person appointed will be responsible for the preparation of the Institute's publications.

Applicants for post (a) should be graduates, for post (b) a degree would be an advantage. Both posts require administrative experience and a knowledge of the Institute's work. The person appointed will be responsible for the preparation of the Institute's publications.

Further details from: Personnel Officer, R.I.B.A., 66 PORTLAND PLACE, LONDON, W.1. TELEPHONE: 01-580 5555. CLOSING DATE: 1 DECEMBER.

Merton College

DOMESTIC BURSAR

Merton College invites applications for the post of Domestic Bursar to take up his duties in September 1976. The College would normally expect a candidate aged between 30 and 40, with a degree and a minimum of 10 years' experience in a similar post. The person appointed will be responsible for the preparation of the College's publications.

Applicants should send their curriculum vitae, with three references, to the Secretary, Merton College, Oxford, by 12 January 1976.

MIDDLE EAST

An excellent career is awaiting a young married couple who would accept the challenge of making a success of a luxury goods shop in Dubai, U.A.E. The shop is one of a distinguished chain of shops in the Middle East. The person appointed will be responsible for the preparation of the shop's publications.

Write to Miss G. Leach, 18, Wellington Court, Knightsbridge, SW1X 7PL.

A TRAINEE BROKER

A young person (16-18) is required for a firm of international City-based brokers. The person appointed will be responsible for the preparation of the firm's publications.

For an excellent career, write to: Mr. J. H. Smith, 10, St. James's Place, London, W.1. Telephone: 01-493 1234. For an immediate interview.

CLA MANAGEMENT

"A" LEVEL LEADER £1,800. Two "A" level trainees, 17-20, to work in a City firm. The person appointed will be responsible for the preparation of the firm's publications.

Phone: D. Hayward, 253 9183. CLA MANAGEMENT.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

County Town, West Sussex. Large General Practice requires a highly experienced legal executive.

To work largely unsupervised in the field of litigation. Excellent salary and working conditions with good long term prospects.

Apply Box 1517 to The Times.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

LONDON LEGAL BUREAU. Specialist in the legal field. The person appointed will be responsible for the preparation of the bureau's publications.

ALANGATE Legal Staff. The person appointed will be responsible for the preparation of the staff's publications.

LEGAL PROFESSIONAL. The person appointed will be responsible for the preparation of the profession's publications.

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

ST. JOHN'S COLLEGE

FELLOWSHIP IN ENGLISH

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

The College proposes, if a suitable candidate presents himself, to elect to an Official Fellowship in English Language and Literature, tenable from 1 April 1976, or as soon after as convenient. Candidates should be prepared to teach Renaissance and post-Renaissance literature for both Honour Moderations and the Final Honour School.

Applications, with details of career and publications and the names of three referees, should be sent, not later than 1 January 1976, to the Senior Tutor, from whom further particulars may be obtained.

THE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF WALES

ABERYSTWYTH

The College Council invites applications for the following professional appointments, tenable from October 1976:

1. Julian Hodge Chair of Accounting in the Faculty of Economic and Social Studies.

2. Rendel Chair of English

3. Chair of History

Further particulars obtainable from the Registrar, to whom applications (12 copies), with the names and addresses of three referees should be sent by Monday, 5 January, 1976.

Secretarial and General Appointments

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We are looking for an applicant with initiative, who is unflappable and has an aptitude for figures, to assist our Financial Director in a busy office. High shorthand speeds not essential. Electric typewriter. Duties will include typing general correspondence, monthly figures, filing and general organization. Own office. Extremely friendly working atmosphere. Excellent salary according to age and experience. Many staff benefits, including subsidized canteen, hairdressing, shopping discount and certain travel concessions.

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Like your own initiative and drive? Are you a dynamic, lively person? As a member of the Personnel Department of this leading international company, you will be responsible for recruiting staff, and will be involved in the selection and training of new staff. You will be responsible for the general running of the Personnel Department.

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£3,000 PLUS

Experience at director level on a leading international company. The person appointed will be responsible for the preparation of the company's publications.

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Use your ability to deal with people at all levels. Co-ordinate advertising for this Marketing Director. This busy person will be responsible for the preparation of the company's publications.

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£2,800 EXECUTIVE

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USE YOUR FRENCH! Use your initiative and drive. The person appointed will be responsible for the preparation of the company's publications.

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Like your own initiative and drive? Are you a dynamic, lively person? As a member of the Advertising and Public Relations Department of this leading international company, you will be responsible for recruiting staff, and will be involved in the selection and training of new staff. You will be responsible for the general running of the Advertising and Public Relations Department.

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PERSONAL ASSISTANT/DEPUTY

For further details, please apply to — Miss James Personnel Department 01-930 3181

HOW DOES IT SEEL?

For further details, please apply to — Miss James Personnel Department 01-930 3181

SOLICITORS

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SECRETARY REQUIRED FOR CHURCHILL PERSONNEL

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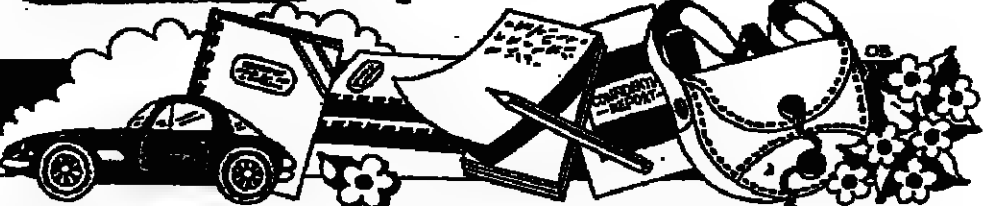
SECRETARIAL

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT

TO ASSIST FINANCIAL DIRECTOR

La creme de la creme



we need qualified secretaries in America...

For Health Insurance, Accommodation, Advanced, for details, write or telephone First Girl Ltd., 33 Sackville St., London W1, 01-407 8534.

Information sent free to: EDINBURGH, GLASGOW, MANCHESTER, BIRMINGHAM, NEWCASTLE, BRISTOL, LONDON.

Executive Secretary GERMANY

German Hotel Corporation seeks for Frankfurt office of its International Project Planning Division an executive secretary. Knowledge of German desirable, but not essential.

Salary £250 net per month.

Please reply to: MARTIN-HOTEL CORPORATION, 5 Frankfurt Uferstr. 25, Germany.

PERSONAL SECRETARY TO THE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION-MANAGER

This position will appeal to those who enjoy demanding work, and who are able to work under pressure. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the research and development department. The duties include: planning, organising, and supervising the work of the department; liaising with other departments; and maintaining accurate records of the department's activities. The successful candidate will be a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records. The successful candidate will be a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records.

King Edward's Hospital Fund for London Kings' Fund Centre PERSONAL SECRETARY

to Assistant Director required. The successful applicant will be a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records. The successful candidate will be a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The Old Elms Company Limited, a leading manufacturer of electronic equipment, is seeking a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records. The successful candidate will be a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records.

Secretary to Technical Director c. £3,000

Top class Audio Secretary with knowledge of short-hand required for busy Executive of an Electronics Company. The work is busy, varied and requires a high standard of accuracy and speed. For an application form please contact Linda Gaers, Grosfield Electronics Ltd., 786 Holloway Road, London N18. Tel. 01-272 7766.

WINE SHIPPERS

We are looking for a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records. The successful candidate will be a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records.

£3,000 + L.V.s for SECRETARY

Senior Partner Responsible and interesting position in friendly office of leading firm of Chartered Surveyors. If you are aged 35 plus with previous experience as a senior secretary and have first class shorthand and audio skills, we would like to meet you. For interview please write to: MRS. ROSALIE WALLIS, 01-628 7081.

PA/SECRETARY

For Senior Partner of Chartered Surveyors in Chancery Lane. Excellent opportunity for a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records. The successful candidate will be a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records.

PER Executive Secretaries

Bi-Ling Sec. Mitcham £3,000
Senior Secretary N.W.2. Up to £3,000
Secretary to Chairman S.E.1. £3,000
Secretary for Oil Company Interesting Vacancy £2,800
Sec. for Personnel Dept. W.1. £2,800
PA to Management Consultant W.1. £2,600
Secretary to Architects S.W.20. Must be able to drive £3,000

For the above seven vacancies please telephone 01-235 9984

4-5 Grosvenor Place, London SW1

CHAIRMAN'S SECRETARY

ADVERTISING W.C. The Chairman and the Financial Director of a leading advertising/communications group need an experienced, competent, confidential secretary. The job calls for a cool head, tact, efficiency, good typing and the personality to get on well with people. There's plenty of room for initiative. We want someone who is sufficiently mature to become involved and sufficiently lively and intelligent to be a success in the job. No alcoholism. Please write, giving a brief curriculum vitae and an indication of expected salary. Financial Director, Adgroup Services Limited, 99-100 Eagle Street, London W.C.1.

SAUDI ARABIA £4,700 MT 82 OPERATORS

A major oil company has vacancies for 10 secretaries with at least two years' experience of magnetic tape operation. Benefits include free medical care, and of course 'leave' and 'bonus' and 'commission' and 'pension' facilities. 10 days holiday paid leave a year. Applicants must be over 21, must have good secretarial skills with speeds to less than 80 w.p.m. typing and 80 w.p.m. shorthand. Please apply to Writing Assistant: IMF 1048.

EXPERIENCED SECRETARY/PERSONAL ASSISTANT

Required by the Chairman and Managing Director of a substantial private property and investment group, who is also active in local government, so that the work is varied and interesting. Friendly atmosphere and fine Mayfair offices overlooking the Park. A high standard of education and shorthand-typing as well as competence with paper work and a good personality are prerequisites. £3,000 p.a. plus bonus plus lunch vouchers. Please write Box 1662 S, The Times, WC1X 8EZ.

TOP LEVEL PA/SECRETARIES

Each appointment offers a rewarding career where good organization and secretarial skills are appreciated. Personal Director of leading City Accepting House, Around £3,000. 22/25, excellent fringe benefits include 4 weeks holiday, and pension. For a large international company, with responsibilities for Group Administration, Free BUPA, health, etc. 4 weeks holiday. Around £3,000 to start, rising towards £3,500. Senior partner of prestige City Solicitors specializing in Company and Commercial Law. £2,400 - £2,800 and 2 bonuses a year. 53 Fleet St, EC4.

For the Margery Hurst Centre

TO MANAGE OUR WEST END OFFICE, WE ARE SEEKING THE BEST SELECTION MANAGER IN LONDON. The Margery Hurst Centre is the Executive equivalent of the "employment" agency, both for secretarial and high grade professional staff. The successful applicant will be required to initiate and control every aspect of the business. Please send curriculum vitae to: THE MARGERY HURST CENTRE, 47 Davies Street, London, W.1.

BILINGUAL AND BEAUTIFUL c. £3,000

This is a marvellous opportunity for a girl aged 25+ to combine a large international company, with responsibilities for Group Administration, Free BUPA, health, etc. 4 weeks holiday. Around £3,000 to start, rising towards £3,500. Senior partner of prestige City Solicitors specializing in Company and Commercial Law. £2,400 - £2,800 and 2 bonuses a year. 53 Fleet St, EC4.

NEAR LONDON AIRPORT

Dynamic Sales & Marketing Manager at international company in the Airport world. Looking for a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records. The successful candidate will be a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records.

CLIENT SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES £3,000 +

A career opportunity - meeting people and creating good working relationships - is offered by a large international company, with responsibilities for Group Administration, Free BUPA, health, etc. 4 weeks holiday. Around £3,000 to start, rising towards £3,500. Senior partner of prestige City Solicitors specializing in Company and Commercial Law. £2,400 - £2,800 and 2 bonuses a year. 53 Fleet St, EC4.

SELLING CAN BE A CAREER...

If you want to do well at it! We are a large photographic studio, who urgently need young, but mature, ladies to promote our services in the London area. Good basic salary plus commission can earn you up to £3,000 p.a. and you will enjoy challenging and rewarding work. Interested? Then ring Mr. Wilder on 262 7744.

PA TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Up to £3,500 + free lunches/hairdressing
Hardy's is the country's largest independent furniture group with over 240 stores in the U.K. Due to promotion abroad, we urgently require a PA (aged 25+) to our Chief Executive. You will assist the Chief Executive: organize meetings - prepare agendas - and arrange for the right information to be available; meet visitors and be involved with PR; work closely with Personnel. You will provide a full secretarial and obviously have excellent shorthand and typing. Anything else you'd like to take on (if you're still the time and energy!) is your opportunity. Naturally you'll expect - and you'll get - a salary that reflects your talents. Plus some top Hardy's benefits (think of free hairdresses, free 1 hr. lunches, hours 9 a.m.-5 p.m., prestige Directors' offices). But only apply if you've had the sort of executive experience this opportunity demands. Ring 637 0651 and ask for ext. 29 or write to Jan Pike, Hardy & Co. (Furnishers) Ltd., Hardy House, 30 Portland Place, London W1N 4AQ. If you want to make it big make for Hardy's.

If becoming a good Secretary was only part of your plan...

We'll help you carry out the rest of it. Our clients are world leaders in very specialised training equipment which affects everyone who travels by air. Although based on the South Coast, they are just about to set up an office in the West End of London and they have already recruited a Manager. All they need now is a P.A. who, apart from possessing the obvious shorthand/typing skills, can cope with all essential duties and cover for the Manager when he is away. This will involve welcoming senior company staff and clients from many different countries, performing secretarial duties including organising travel and accommodation, and even advising on shopping, tours and entertainment. (Knowledge of London therefore will be most valuable.) You'll be working a normal 9/5 hours, but actual times will be mutually agreed. It's a highly responsible job calling for qualities of maturity, discretion, loyalty, friendliness and a capability of carrying out many tasks at the same time. Please apply for an application form to Peter Phillips, Riley Advertising Ltd., Old Court House, Old Court Place, Kensington, London, W.8. Tel. 01-837 8100.

SECRETARY TO SALES MANAGER

Our Sales Manager is looking for a mature, efficient secretary with sound experience and skills. She will be deeply involved in preparing proposals for contracts in the petrochemical field on a worldwide basis. The workload can be heavy at times so good speeds are essential. She will be happy to accept responsibility and show initiative in helping to run a small but busy department. She will liaise with clients and members of management, arrange conferences and business meetings and monitor arrangements for overseas travel. Good salary for right candidate; fringe benefits include: profit sharing, pension scheme, L.V.s, help with season ticket, etc. Please contact Mrs. Ray-Dyson, Fluor (England) Limited, 28 Pinbury Square, London EC2A 1EB, tel. 032-8613, extn. 30.

PA/SECRETARY up to £3,000

for Director of a young and rapidly growing company W.C.1. While her excellent secretarial skills will be well employed, she will soon be required to fulfil an executive role with existing Clients so that the Director can afford more time planning new business and pursuing prospective clients. Initiative, energy and humour are essential assets. Proven ability and involvement will lead to greater responsibility, increased remuneration and profit-sharing in a friendly environment. Please phone Joan Detonel on 408 5417 to arrange an appointment.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY/PA £4000

Managing Director of City-based international shipping company seeks a top culture Secretary, able to liaise at high level. Good skills, a pleasant personality and flexibility are all essential.

JAYGAR CAREERS

01-730 5148/9

INTELLIGENT LITELY SECRETARY/PA FOR INFORMATION SERVICES MANAGER

If you want an opportunity to become involved in a wide range of interesting activities, to work on a large international company, and to play a part in introducing new ideas. We offer a competitive salary, pleasant office near Oxford Circus. Please write to: Mr. Philip Adams, Information Services Manager, INSTITUTE OF PETROLEUM, 61 New Cavendish St., London W1M 5AR. 01-636 1004.

GUILDFORD/COBHAM

Top job near home Commuting from Guildford/Weybridge/Leatherhead area? 3 Directors need first-class secretary to help build our international marketing consultancy. Someone who types fast, also has time to be deeply involved in the rest of the business. Salary negotiable around £2,700. Phone Cobham 2388 for more details.

PERSONAL SECRETARY £2,250 to £3,610

For interesting, varied and responsible job in happy department. Accurate typing and shorthand skills essential. 24 months in five, 4 weeks holiday. Superb remuneration. Applications to: PROFESSOR J. R. HOBBS, Dept. of Chemical Pathology, Guy's Hospital, St Thomas Street, London SE1 1UL. Tel. 01-235 9911, EXT. 2540.

MANAGER £3,500

For Secretarial Services Division of major third organisation. General supervisory experience plus interest in personnel. Post is confidential and offers an excellent salary, pension, and profit sharing. Full details from N.S.S. WOMEN'S APPOINTMENTS 01-242 5855

INTERNATIONAL COMPANY

Setting up European Headquarters in Portman Square, W.1, need the help of six efficient young secretaries (over 20) to work as a team to develop dynamic new U.K. based business. Applicants require strong organizational skills, the ability to handle people and first class secretarial knowledge. Languages useful, but not essential. SALARY UP TO £3,000

INTERESTED

Also required—Receptionist/Telephonist. Full or Part-time. SALARY NEGOTIABLE (Offices opening Jan. 2, 1976)

If you are interested in joining our team, please apply in writing to: Wendy Frost THE PILLSBURY CO. OF U.S.A. (EUROPE) LTD., 311, Portland Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 5SX.

A leading Merchant Bank requires

A SECRETARY

Aged 23-29, with a good educational background and pleasant personality, to work for a busy Director.

We offer an interesting and demanding job in the stimulating environment of international banking.

Accurate shorthand/typing of 110/55 w.p.m. is essential.

An attractive salary fully commensurate with the responsibilities of the job, holiday bonus, and other excellent financial benefits are offered plus L.V.'s and use of Staff Luncheon Room.

Please telephone Mrs. G. Bullock 01-600 4555

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY MAIDENHEAD c.£2,800

We operate oil and chemical tank terminals throughout the UK and we need a Secretary for our Managing Director to work in modern offices in Maidenhead. Duties also include public relations and some personnel administration. Candidates should be experienced in secretarial skills, preferably over 25, and should have a pleasing personality. Free life assurance, non-contributory pension scheme and other fringe benefits are offered to the successful applicant. Please contact: Mrs. Carol Scrimshaw, PARKANE STORAGE CO. LTD., Nicholson House, Nicholson's Walk, High Street, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 1LQ. Telephone: Maidenhead 37676

Medical Typing Specialist

The person we need for this position must be a superb typist with an unerring eye for good layout. The work is primarily for our Submissions Unit and pleasing presentation is of paramount importance. We expect a high output, and are prepared to reward this with a high salary (up to £3,000 p.a.). This is not an easy job, but it will appeal to those who take a pride in their work and enjoy the satisfaction of seeing what they have accomplished at the end of the day. Reference No. 585/77/1

We offer the benefits of working for a large international company with an excellent salary and flexible working hours. For further information please telephone Mrs. A. L. White on 01-822 5060 extn. 238, or write to Personnel Services Department, May & Baker Ltd., Department, Essex RM10 7ZD, quoting the appropriate reference number.

DO YOU WANT RESPONSIBILITY, INTEREST AND NO ROUTINE?

I need someone who has organisational flair, a cool manner to cope with enquiries, queries and people, efficiency to sort out chaos, and a zest to get involved in a demanding but interesting position. Some typing essential, and a speaking knowledge of French or German helpful. Salary negotiable around £3,000 p.a. plus a minimum of 4 weeks annual holiday. Please ring (don't write!) 01-228 2964.

DIRECTOR'S SECRETARY £2,700

WE URGENTLY REQUIRE A TOP LEVEL SECRETARY FOR OUR FINANCIAL DIRECTOR. This is a demanding position covering highly confidential strategy and policy-making decisions, although little or no figure work is involved. To apply, you should be 25 plus and used to working at top management level. A sense of humour would also be an advantage. Working in our brand new offices in South West London you will have an up-to-date range of benefits including 4 weeks' holiday, subsidised staff canteen, pension scheme, and use of the free house car. PLEASE TELEPHONE ANGELA CASEY ON 01-735 9131, ext. 256, OR WRITE TO HER AT OTIS ELEVATOR COMPANY LIMITED, 43/39 CLAPHAM ROAD, LONDON SW9 0JZ.

LEGAL SECRETARY

with conveyancing experience for Partner, City Solicitors, close Bank/Cannon St. Aged 25-45. Audio but some shorthand useful. Excellent facilities. SALARY TO £2,800. Please ring: 248 3433

ASSISTANT TO PERSONNEL MANAGER TO £3,000 P.A.

Required by a large branch of a leading international company. Excellent opportunity for a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records. The successful candidate will be a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records.

AGENCY MANAGEMENT TO £4,000

Required by a large branch of a leading international company. Excellent opportunity for a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records. The successful candidate will be a woman with a minimum of five years' experience in a similar position. She will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, and for ensuring that all work is completed on time and to the required standard. She will also be responsible for the recruitment and training of staff, and for the maintenance of the department's records.

FINANCIAL (MARKETING) PLANNING MANAGER (Female)

late 20's, early 30's TO £5,500 P.A. PLUS CAR. For major international organisation with a future (readily accessible) in London. Applications should be made to: Mrs. A. L. White, 01-822 5060 extn. 238, or write to Personnel Services Department, May & Baker Ltd., Department, Essex RM10 7ZD, quoting the appropriate reference number.

Mercedes? BMW? Jaguar?



هكذا آمن الأهل

In the world of executive motor cars, certain names are synonymous with power and luxury.

Mercedes, BMW, and Jaguar are among them.

Now, they're joined by another.

It's not a new name, since it has been in existence longer than any other in the industry.

But it's one which has built a supreme reputation for quality and durability.

The name is Peugeot. The car is our brand new 604. And the result is a European executive saloon which sets new standards of comfort, silence and luxury.

Our three criteria

When we sat down to design our new 604, three criteria were uppermost in our minds.

We wanted technical sophistication. We wanted silence. We wanted luxury.

Look over the car with us and we'll show you how well we succeeded.

Let's start with our *gamme riche* paintwork. It's smoother and glossier than an ordinary car because it's built up from 6 hand sprayed coats of rich metallic paint.

When these are finished to our satisfaction we coat the car with an incredibly tough transparent 'varnish'.

The effect is to deepen the colour, and protect it against grime and grit.

Further down, behind the ventilated wheels, are four power assisted dual circuit disc brakes.

Behind them is the kind of co-ordinated all independent suspension system which makes this Peugeot one of the most comfortable high performance saloons in the world.

And mounted flush with the slim, black grille are four brilliant halogen headlamps, each with a separate independent function.

A feeling of space

Inside, the mood is pure luxury. Luxury, combined with an almost uncanny feeling of space.

You'll find the kind of leg and shoulder room, for example, that you'd normally associate with a limousine.

And on top of this spaciousness, careful ergonomic design and top quality materials combine to cut interior noise and driver stress to a minimum.

Steering is via a power-assisted rack and pinion system. Light, but with plenty of feel.

Speedometer, tachometer and matching quartz clock are housed behind a non-reflective glass screen.

Each window is discreetly tinted to reduce glare, and all four side windows are electrically operated.

Sumptuous, orthopaedically correct reclining seats have built-in head restraints and are covered with choice hide or rich velours.

When hide upholstery is selected, a push-button electric sunroof is also fitted.

Individual interior lamps allow rear seat passengers to read in comfort.

And inertia reel seat belts, standard fitting for the front seats of the 604, retract neatly into the door pillars.

Smooth, silent, tireless

Under the bonnet, there's a whole new story.

We developed the 2.7 litre V6 engine especially for our 604: in consequence it is powerful, tireless and smooth as a turbine.

To balance the car properly—and thus allow it to handle like a sports saloon—we built this engine of pressure cast aluminium.

Its two overhead camshafts and compound carburettors allow it to deliver 136 bhp with a minimum of fuss and a maximum of fuel economy (between 21 and 23 mpg overall, depending whether automatic or manual transmission is chosen).

And the two alternative transmission systems developed by our engineers exclusively for the car, allow Peugeot drivers to enjoy the kind of smooth, quiet progress which has made our name synonymous with silence for eighty-five years.

A symbol of success

You'd expect a 114 mph European express like the 604 to be a safe car.

It is.

It incorporates safety features found on our experimental safety vehicle, first shown at the 1975 Geneva Motor Show.

Together with the kind of legendary reliability born of our innumerable rally wins, the 604 combines the virtues of a *grand bolide* with those of a hand built limousine.

For us, it's a symbol of success.

For the relatively few people lucky enough to own one, we believe it will provide tangible evidence that success breeds success.

PEUGEOT

The better built, more reliable car

The 604 range starts at a modest £4,600 for the manual gearbox version with velours upholstery and extends to £5,242 for the SL model with automatic gearbox, electric sunroof and hide interior. For the full story on the 604 V6 SL, send this coupon to The Marketing Services Director, Peugeot Automobiles (UK) Limited, Peugeot House, Western Avenue, London W3 0RS. Telephone 01-993 2331.

Name _____

Address _____

T/11/6

Why Scotland will brook no more delay on devolution

The Government's handling of the Scottish devolution has been a glorious blend of the expedient with the incompetent. It is not therefore surprising that the result is a political shambles. The policy has lacked conviction, but far more important, the Government has failed to assess the psychology of Scotland correctly.

They should first accept the right of the Scottish people to determine their own future. Unlike the Union of the States in America, the Act of Union of 1707 contained the serious drawback that the Scottish Parliament was dissolved totally. Scotland has lacked a political forum, and demands for devolution have over the decades been met by successive transfers of administration from Whitehall to St Andrews House in Edinburgh, without a corresponding transfer of political power and democratic answerability.

Because there is this political vacuum the only way of determining the views of the Scottish people on the constitutional question of altering the terms of the 1707 union is by referendum. There is now respectable precedent for the Ulster border poll and the EEC referendum, but a Scottish Liberal MP introduced a Scottish Referendum Bill back in 1967 when such a proposal was regarded as an oddity. Unhappily, any such proposal now would smack of further delaying tactics, but since the legislative programme has slipped there is no reason why the intervening time should not be put to good use. There is no majority—even amongst Scottish Nationalist Party voters—for independence, and a referendum could usefully clear this issue out of the way and let us concentrate on effective devolution, which is what the great majority of Scots (as shown by every opinion poll ever taken on the subject) actually want. The holding of such a referendum would in itself be a badly needed recognition of the sovereignty of the Scottish people.

Second, the Government must improve the terminology of devolution. Why do they insist on calling what should be the Scottish Parliament an "assembly"? Why insist Scotland be proposed that our government be headed by a "chief executive" as if the whole thing were nothing but a grandiose local authority? If a Prime Minister was good enough for the province of Northern Ireland nothing less should satisfy Scotland. Why do they insist on cramming the new body into the too tiny inadequate former Royal High School? It could be for the very worst reason: its convenience for civil servants across the United Kingdom.

None of these things should be of much concern to English politicians, but they are important to Scotland. There are two other factors in the psychology of devolution which are, however, of concern to politicians throughout the United Kingdom. The first is the continued over-representation of Scotland by 71 MPs in the Commons. The Kilbracken Commission recommended that once powers were transferred to Edinburgh the over-representation of the Scots at Westminster should cease and our MPs be reduced to 56, giving equal representation for England. Now, if powers are effectively being transferred the commission's logic is irrefutable. What English MPs are going to put up with my votes on their legislation on housing, for example, when Scottish legislation on the same subject has been transferred to Edinburgh? Nor can the Government argue for the continued under-representation of Ulster by 12 MPs whose domestic Parliament has been suspended, while a country-wide election created is over-represented. The failure of the Government to accept the reduction in the number of Scottish MPs and corresponding reduction in the power of the Secretary of State for Scotland can only be interpreted in Scotland as meaning

'The Government must recognize that either delay or watering-down of their devolution proposals will create further exasperation in Scotland and growing demands for the break-up of the United Kingdom'

preted in Scotland as meaning relatively little power for a Scottish Government and Parliament.

The other matter of concern to the whole of the United Kingdom is the public benefit from oil revenues. Now, both Labour and Tory governments have resisted nationalist claims by arguing that Scotland could not afford to be self-governing. It was a silly ground on which to base their case, and one which opened up the possibility of the discovery of North Sea oil. From both an economic and political viewpoint there is sound reason for placing one source of oil revenues under the control of a Scottish Parliament, leaving us free to have an income which would incidentally reduce any treasury block grant, but which could be directly applied to development of the Scottish economy. Such a rational approach is essential if we are not to leave the way open to the "Jollipod democracy" approach of the SNP, who promise that everything from Chrysler's troubles to dental caries will be cured by Scottish oil.

In Scotland there is greater interest in the English among politicians in all parties about some form of proportionate electoral system. Given a four-party line-up there are even stronger arguments against transferring the Westminster system unchanged to Edinburgh. If the new Scottish government is to succeed it must be genuinely representative of Scottish public opinion. The royal commission, too, was unanimous in recommending this.

The delay in the previously announced programme for legislation has been caused by the failure of the Tory and Labour Parties to consider the matter in enough detail and to convert their backbenchers. Since we are faced with delay, it should be used to constructive purpose. Immediately after publication of the White Paper tomorrow, a constitutional conference (or pre-legislative select committee) should be set up to hammer out the disagreements before legislation. To do nothing until the Bill is published is to invite further catastrophic delay during the passage of legislation, with the possible logistical and which benefit House of Lords reform.

The Government must recognize that either delay or watering-down of their devolution proposals will create further exasperation in Scotland and growing demands for the break-up of the United Kingdom. The policies will not be right until these basic facts of Scottish political life are accepted.

David Steel

The author is the Liberal MP for Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles.

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Outmanned and outgunned, the Army cannot win the battle for South Armagh

The murder of three young Fusiliers on the border near Crossmaglen on Saturday will do nothing to raise the morale of British soldiers serving in Ulster. It may, however, raise the hopes of serving officers who have been pressing for offensive action against the IRA, for the rule of the Provisionals in this corner of the United Kingdom is now more complete than ever it was in Londonderry and the enclave at the height of "No-Go".

Whatever the detailed findings of the Army inquiry into these latest killings, most officers believe that the murder of soldiers in South Armagh will continue while the Army remains outnumbered and outgunned by the IRA.

By putting observation posts on the border near Crossmaglen the Fusiliers were making a brave attempt at the correct military solution to the IRA in South Armagh—highly aggressive patrolling by small groups of soldiers.

If a four-man patrol is to be left on its own in an area of intense enemy activity and surrounded by a hostile population, it must either have reinforcements capable of reaching it within five minutes, or else it must be dug in so as to withstand a more prolonged attack. The reinforcements must be at instant readiness when the patrol is moving in and out of position.

The Fusiliers were probably unable to dig in without giving themselves away. It is equally likely that reinforcements were not instantly available because there were not enough troops at Crossmaglen to provide a proper back-up force 24 hours a day.

The IRA on the other hand have every advantage: living in comfort south of the border they will wait until cold, discomfort and lack of sleep take the edge of the alertness of a small observation post and then hit it with as many men as they feel are necessary. There is only one way for the British Army to deal with this capability and that is to bring in more troops to South Armagh. This Mr Rees has refused to do.

The British Army is also outgunned in South Armagh where they often fired on from far greater ranges than in the cities. Their weapons consist of the self-loading rifle with an accurate range of 300 metres, the general purpose machine gun with a range of about 1,000 metres and the Sterling sub-

machine gun which is effective to about 75 metres.

With these conventional small arms they have to take on an enemy who can hit them when and where he likes and with any weapon he chooses. The IRA have effective mortars in which they are well trained by Paddy O'Kane, an ex-Parachute Regiment mortar platoon colour sergeant. They have achieved pinpoint accuracy with these at 1,200 metres. They have the RPG 7, the latest Russian anti-tank rocket which is effective against armoured vehicles and fortified positions at up to 500 metres. Their small arms include Gama rifles, Russian AK47 Kalashnikovs, Bren guns and Browning heavy machine guns, the latter with a range of 2,000 metres.

If the IRA use these weapons from well prepared defensive positions south of the border, there is no way the British Army can destroy their enemy. They have been issued with two inch mortars, but the high explosive ammunition has to be kept 35 miles away at

Ballykinler—useless and out of reach. The two inch is anyway inferior in performance to the mortars used by the IRA.

Green Archer, the device in service with the British Army for locating enemy mortar base positions has not been used, nor have such effective anti-tank weapons such as the shoulder-controlled Carl Gustav gun or the 76 mm gun of the Saladin armoured car. Even the phosphorus grenade, the only effective means the British infantryman has for making a protective smoke screen when ambushed, has been banned on the grounds that it would be regarded as escalation and therefore politically unacceptable.

It is against this background that the Army has suffered more than 280 casualties in South Armagh since 1969, as against single figures for the IRA. The IRA call the area "the Independent Republic of South Armagh" and for the past year they have been in control, killing carefully selected groups

of soldiers at will. The symbol of this power is the Irish tricolour which flies over the town hall at Crossmaglen and which is judiciously allowed to remain there by the small force of British soldiers in the town. There is little patrolling carried out by the Army and none by the RUC, military vehicles rarely being allowed to patrol south of Newtown Hamilton which is about 10 miles to the north of Crossmaglen.

IRA road blocks are more frequent than those of the Army and rarely is anything done to try to catch these responsible. The permanent Army posts at Crossmaglen and Forkhill have to be supplied by air and both are at full stretch defending their own positions and have no spare capacity for other operations.

Earlier this year the Provisionals attacked a post at Drumahaire seven times in seventeen days without being effectively counter-attacked, and British officers have been given Military Crosses for their brave defence of these tiny strongholds repelling British rule. But perhaps the incident which best illustrates the situation in South Armagh is that recently it took a company operation with helicopters to serve summonses on two men living in the area.

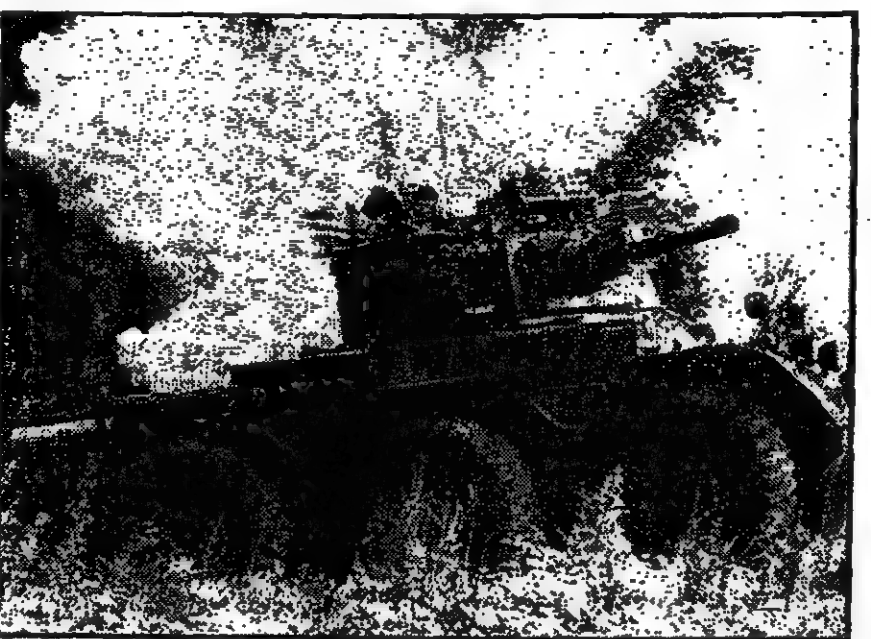
Both Mr Rees and Mr Orme have said that they regard South Armagh as a separate problem from the rest of Ulster. Few of the actual combatants in the province would agree with this view.

In November last year, just before the ceasefire with the IRA was announced and the security forces believed for the first time that they were beating the terrorists, the IRA were able to deny their claim by citing the state of anarchy that still existed in South Armagh.

The majority of Army officers believe that to break the morale of the Provisionals, their heroes, the 2nd (Crossmaglen) Battalion, must be destroyed. As one officer serving in Ulster summed up recently, "South Armagh is the flaming torch of IRA success in Ulster; beat them there and we will win".

By a Special Correspondent who has served recently in the Army in Ulster.

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A Saladin armoured car on patrol in Northern Ireland.

Bernard Levin

Naming names in a good week for democracy

It was to be expected that the now-famous Declaration of Intent on the part of the revolutionary factors in Aneurin Bevan's "The Disfranchisement of the non-militant majority is an essential safeguard for the democratization of our union"—would find favour among similar groups in other trade unions. It did not, however, expect to find the Communist Party (a rather more experienced and sophisticated body, after all, than Vanessa's Looies) responding to the colossal victory of the democratic side in the most recent round of elections in the AUEW with sentiments quite so naïvely couched as those of the editorial in the Morning Star as it surveyed the virtual annihilation of all communist influence in the hands of the members' democratic candidates. "The threat of imposing postal ballots by law," wrote the CP's newspaper, "needs to be resisted by the whole labour movement. The unions must be free to decide their own procedures." In view of the fact that the engineers' massive rejection of communists and fellow-travellers was the direct result of postal ballot procedures decided by the union and resisted with multiplicity so flagrant that the moderates had to be twice to get the democratic decision enforced, the CP's indignation is understandable; but it is touching to see how the comrades' rage has led them to reveal so plainly their determination to restrict wherever possible the spread of participation by the union's members in the union's elections.

Even more amusing was the reaction of Mr Bob Wright to news of the enormous margin—50,000 votes to the 45,000 of his firmly anti-

communist opponent, Mr Terry Duffy—by which he lost his seat of the union's executive committee. He was himself a member of the Communist Party, but his position in his relation to it may perhaps be most accurately and delicately suggested by recalling the response of Lady Bracknell to Jack Worthing's claim to be a Liberal Unionist: "Oh, they count as Tories. They dine with us. Or come in the evening, at any rate." The left had campaigned harder for him than for any candidate except Mr Jimmy Reid, the communist standard-bearer in Scotland; facing the landslide by which he had been removed from the executive, Mr Wright declared that the "scurrilous press campaign" taken up by the left against the members' democratic candidates, "the clamour of the CP's newspaper," "needs to be resisted by the whole labour movement. The unions must be free to decide their own procedures." In view of the fact that the engineers' massive rejection of communists and fellow-travellers was the direct result of postal ballot procedures decided by the union and resisted with multiplicity so flagrant that the moderates had to be twice to get the democratic decision enforced, the CP's indignation is understandable; but it is touching to see how the comrades' rage has led them to reveal so plainly their determination to restrict wherever possible the spread of participation by the union's members in the union's elections.

The AUEW executive is now firmly in the hands of moderates, and since the new general secretary, Mr John Boyd, is the man who has led the fight against Communist influence in the union, the result of these elections (there were also a substantial number of contests for other posts, such as national organizer and district secretary, in all of which only one Communist, and no fellow-traveller, succeeded) is as significant as it is heartening. It was instructive, during

the long campaign, to see how the publication in a number of newspapers of the names and addresses of the candidates (I gave such lists, as did Mr Woodrow Wyatt in the Sunday Mirror, and the same thing was done in the Daily Express and the Sun) aroused the fury of the left. To those whose one hope was in keeping the poll as low as possible, and in concealing the political affiliations of Communist and fellow-travelling candidates, such publicity must indeed have been welcome; but the branch voting system (which gave the Communist Party its original chance to seize power) is interesting to note that the election addresses of the candidates supported by the Communists almost all make the same points—the two main ones being opposition to the £6 limit and an end to the ban on Communist office-holders; even so, many members of the union may well not know those whom the Communists support. (Possibly there are members of the union who do not read The Times; still, those who do can no doubt wield a pair of scissors.)

In Division No 3, which covers Scotland and Ireland, the candidates caused by fear, the Communists are supported by those who reject the left extremists. As I did with the AUEW, therefore, I am going to give a list of the leading moderate candidates and of those whom the Communists wish to see win. (Possibly there are members of the union who do not read The Times; still, those who do can no doubt wield a pair of scissors.)

But this sword has two edges; the rule makes it much

harder to identify, in the minds of the members, the Communist Party's favoured candidates. In the present round of elections not all the candidates opposing the leading moderates are Communists or fellow-travellers; but the moderates are supporters not only of democracy but of the fight against inflation, including such measures as the £6 limit on pay increases. Their opponents from the left talk of "restoring democracy" to the union, by which they mean the branch voting system (which gave the Communist Party its original chance to seize power). It is interesting to note that the election addresses of the candidates supported by the Communists almost all make the same points—the two main ones being opposition to the £6 limit and an end to the ban on Communist office-holders; even so, many members of the union may well not know those whom the Communists support. (Possibly there are members of the union who do not read The Times; still, those who do can no doubt wield a pair of scissors.)

year, against the canonisation of the Shrewsbury Martyrs, the Communist Party's favoured candidate, Mr Eric Clapton, in Division 7 (Wales and the West) the moderate strong member, Mr Bernard Clarke, is faced by the Communist-supported Mr Wyn Bevan.

In Division 8 (part of London, plus parts of Kent and Hampshire), there is a moderate sitting member, Mr Eric Hammond, faced by three others; those wishing to see the moderates retain control should vote for Hammond and not use their alternative preferences.

In Division 10 (part of London, plus parts of the Home Counties) there is another straight fight, between the moderate strong member, Mr Bill Blair, and Mr Fred Gore, who is supported by the Communists.

Finally, in Division 11 (part of London, plus East Angles), the sitting moderate, Mr Eric Clapton, is opposed by the Communist-supported John Aitken.

Ballot-papers have been going out for some days, and must be returned by December 9. Some of the contests are expected to be close, and every vote counts. No doubt articles like this one will have been resented by the left, who would prefer the union's members not to know which candidates the Communists are supporting. But if anything I have written should be even indirectly helpful in securing even one more vote for a moderate candidate in so crucial an election for a union with so traumatic a political history, I shall be well content. The union's motto, after all, is "Light and Liberty", and I have often noticed that those two seem to go together.

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Choosing the wrong tools for the job

Continuing our occasional series on new words and new meanings

The change from description to evaluation is one of the most potent agents for dating meanings. A word starts life, like a new tool, with a sharp descriptive edge. Humans, in their propensity to exaggeration and carelessness, use words that are meant to be descriptive chisels as evaluative screwdrivers. And, before you know where you are, you are left with a box full of blunt tools, and a hazy vocabulary. Here follow a few tools that are at present being misused:

Democracy: No government has ever run successfully for long on a programme of continuous power to the people, which is what the etymology of the word implies. Fifth century Athens managed, spasmodically and not well, only by not counting women and slaves as citizens. Today tyrannical, dictatorial, and oligarchical regimes use *democratic* as an empty pro-word to mean "better than the government next door, and if you try to go there to see for yourself you will be shot". Of the use of *freedom*, vague value word so mean "You wouldn't like freedom if we let you have it, anyway". The prison in Havana is called *Campo Libertad*.

Communist, Fascist, Moderate, Radical, etc.: Once used to describe adherents of clearly defined political programmes, philosophies, or attitudes. Now, however, used as a label of those with whom the speaker does not agree.

Holocaust: Originally, a total sacrifice, which was a religious rite. Now, any fire that merits the attention of one or more fire engines.

Decimate: Originally, to execute one in ten of malicious or cowardly soldiers, to encourage the others; the main reason that the Roman legions tended to carry on fighting, while the opposition's virtue ran to their legs. Now, merely to destroy, kill, or even injure.

Legend: Originally, a traditional but unscientific or non-historical story. Now, used to describe some person or organisation having a special place in public esteem. The BBC described Caruso as a "legendary figure"; the other day, when Winston Churchill's name was mentioned, he was described by the Daily Telegraph as a "legendary figure". BMW motor dealers recently invited potential customers, alarmingly, "to drive a legend". This vulgar misuse is too recent to have been noticed by the lexicographers, but the original offender appears to have been Lyndon B. Johnson. In *Eminent Victorians* he described Florence Nightingale on adjacent pages as "a living legend" and "a living legend" and "a living legend".

Truth: Originally, a concept with a number of associated meanings. Now, used to describe a concept which appears to occupy a wedge of philosophy for a century. Now, little more than the official lie uttered by a Downing Street spokesman or some other professional liar. Note:

"Leave Truth to the police and us; we know the Good." "We build the Perfect City time shall never alter."

(Auden, *Journey to a War*)

The man who uses tools for the wrong jobs reduces the efficiency of the carpentry shed for himself and everybody else.

Philip Howard

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The Times Diary

Hard times for our man in Hanoi

diplomat, though, arrives once every six months at the Reunification Hotel for his semi-annual leave.

"Why a holiday in Hanoi?" he was asked by a visitor. He explained that his permanent post was in the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, where the only diversion is to count the number of times each day the name of President Kim Il Sung is mentioned. Everything is comparative.

An advertisement in the Thant Thant appeals for "bonified sub-contract plastering labour" for a site in Broadstairs.

It is time to brace yourself to be of good cheer: There is a shortage of Christmas trees.

According to Alan Jones, of the Timber Growers' Organization, there will be 30 per cent fewer domestic trees in the shops this Christmas and prices will be up by 10 per cent. A 4ft tree will cost about £160 against £120 last year.

There will not be enough trees for everyone. Jones warned yesterday. "Near Christmas there will be a mad rush." His advice was to buy early and to keep your trees in a cold place until you put them up.

The shortage is a result of a glut in 1969 and 1970, following which many trees were burned.

Stocks were further hit by frosts in May and June this year. More trees are now being planted, according to Alan Jones, there could be another glut in the early 80s, which means, of course, that there will probably be another shortage in the mid-80s.

Jones, who runs Yarranton Estates, near Newbury, Berkshire, gave out the bad news in a public bar close to the Forestry Commission's Alice Holt Forest on the borders of Surrey and Hampshire. He and other forest people had gathered there after witnessing the felling of a 30ft Norwegian spruce which will go on display at Waterloo Station on behalf of the Greater London Fund for the Blind.

The tree should be in full glow by next Tuesday. It comes from a part of the forest which is entered through a gate marked "Genetics Station. Experimental Area." A woman from the Forestry Commission said: "They are probably trying to grow super trees."

Celebration

Things are humming down at Ambridge these days. Dan and Doris are getting ready for a major anniversary. Brookfield Farm will be the scene of a big party on New Year's Eve. Philip has written a book which is a best-seller within a week of

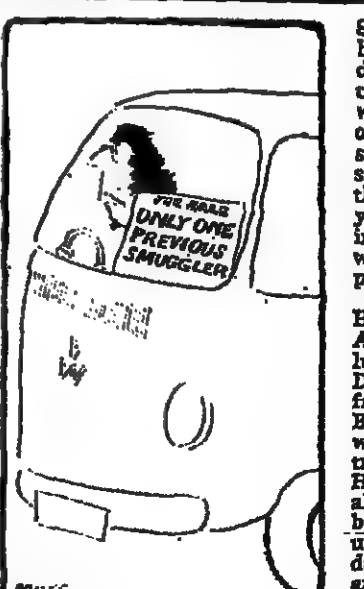
publication, and there will shortly be a power cut in the village. It all has to do with the fact that The Archers will be 25 years old on January 1, and the cast of the BBC's longest running radio drama, are planning a celebration in fact as well as in fiction.

Last week the Archers were recording a batch of episodes, including the one for New Year's Day, and my reporter went to Ambridge to meet the family and their friends.

Ambridge is located in studio three of the BBC's Birmingham production centre, a more boundary shot from Edgbaston cricket ground. The nearest its fictional existence has come to an exact map reference was a passing comment in a recent edition about Stratford-on-Avon. Many regular listeners did not like such exactness, and wrote to say so.

"Ambridge is wherever you want it to be," said Tony Shryane, the producer who has been responsible for almost all the 25 years' output. "The programme is like an anaesthetic; the signature tune at the beginning puts you under, and the tune at the end wakes you up again."

Both Shryane and Jock Gallagher, BBC head of programmes in Birmingham, deny that the series is a romanticised, idealistic view of rural English life. "We have had illegitimate babies, murder, near-rapes. And the little traumas of Ambridge, like the closing of the local school, and the traumas of real life. We even had a farm worker being thrown out of his tied cottage last year, and we got a telegram of congratulation from the general secretary of the farm



workers' union", said Gallagher.

"Of course there are some things we wouldn't do, like bulldozing a motorway through Ambridge. That is probably the greatest trauma of country life today, but it would kill the programme," Gallagher added that he has often noticed that those two seem to go together.

Downstairs in Studio Three Shryane, a perfectionist, was recording a straightforward short scene of Paul Johnson getting off a train, having a few words with his son Peter's education before Shryane was satisfied. In the middle of it, Lesley

Seward, who plays Christine, broke off from the script to debate with Shryane behind the control-room glass as to whether the programme was as good as the competition schools. A script editor was summoned, and it was decided that the line about sending young Peter to private school in London was quite in keeping with Ambridge educational policy.

Upstairs in the canteen Edgar Harrison, who has played Dan Archer for seven years, was lunching with his two wives: Doris from the serial and Kaye from real life. Doris is Gail Berryman, a 65-year-old who lives in Torquay and travels up for the recording. Harrison, who is also 65, although Dan Archer is said to be in his late seventies, moved up from Bristol during the five days each month that episodes are recorded.

"If anyone said 'Dan' behind me, I would automatically react round about Harrison. Very difficult to shake off the character, particularly when people recognize your voice wherever you go. But I love it."

Those who believe that British workingmen lack determination should consider this introduction to an article in Natural Gas. "Dave Colley reports on progress so far with the Frigg pipeline. He has found the wild pipes on the beach-head near St Fergus, Scotland, ready to be linked with the undersea gas line to the gas fields. He has talked to the men in the field of their problems, and of their determination to finish the job, before supplies begin coming ashore."

PHS

سكندرية

Football

Liverpool catch an icy glimpse of the 'horror' that awaits them

from Gary Harrison, Warsaw, Poland, Nov. 25

Through one of the most shocking and sinister plots to be devised in the history of football, Liverpool are today being deceived into believing that they will be playing the Polish champions, Wisla Krakow, in the first round of the UEFA Cup.



Case: set for first European tie.

It is a plot to deceive the Liverpool players into believing that they will be playing the Polish champions, Wisla Krakow, in the first round of the UEFA Cup. The plot is being orchestrated by the Polish Football Federation, which has agreed to a deal with the Liverpool Football Club.

Ray, the English goalkeeper, has never played a Liverpool game. He has been playing for the Polish team, Wisla Krakow, since 1971. He is a well-known player in Poland, but he has never played for Liverpool.

Marsh hopes to sign for Aston Villa today

Rodney Marsh, the Manchester City and England forward, discussed his future with the Aston Villa manager, Ron Saunders, at Villa Park yesterday.

Marsh added: "There are a couple of major matters concerning my family to be resolved, but I appreciate that the opportunity for me to play at Villa Park is enormous. It is a big step for me, but I would have been at Villa Park yesterday and afterwards said that I was 'optimistic' about signing for the club."

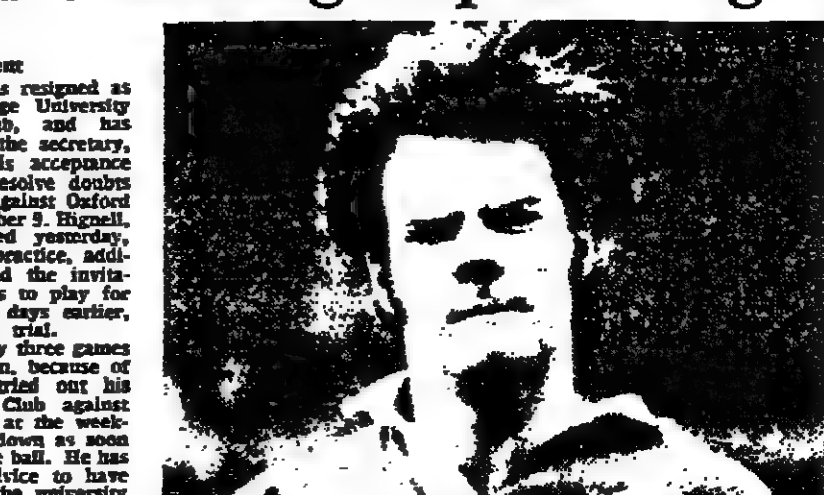
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Rugby Union

Injured Cambridge captain resigns

By Peter West, Rugby Correspondent

Peter Warfield has resigned as captain of Cambridge University rugby football club, and has been succeeded by the secretary, Alastair Hignell. His acceptance of the post must resolve doubts about him playing against Oxford University on December 5.



Peter Warfield... accepted medical advice.

This is a harsh, although not really an unexpected development for Warfield, who has been a member of the club since 1971. He has been playing at a high level, and his resignation is a significant loss to the club.

O'Callaghan, of the All Blacks, has recovered from a two-week hamstring and will play for the university against Northampton on Saturday. His last game before the university match was a tour of Argentina in 1971, although he played in the university match.

Tennis

Wimbledon prices going up 25 per cent

Inflation will make its presence felt at the Wimbledon tennis championships from June 21 to July 3 next year. The prices of tickets are going up by about 25 per cent. The cost of a ticket booked in advance on the centre court goes up from £3.30 to £4.40 and a two-day centre court ticket from £6.60 to £8.80.

Daily centre court seats will be £4.40 against the previous £3.30. The cost of a ticket booked in advance on the centre court goes up from £3.30 to £4.40 and a two-day centre court ticket from £6.60 to £8.80.

Granted fine weather, the game's most famous festival offers a diversity of matches from 2.0 until dusk, together with the usual ambience of a great sporting and social occasion. How does one put a price on the tingle of excitement most of us feel as we pass through the gates of the All England Club, or the opportunity to renew old friendships and make new ones, and on the splendour of the setting in which the finest players in the world are competing?

South-west's front row could set game alight

The Australians play their second tour match under floodlights at Bristol tonight (kick-off 7.30) against Gloucestershire.

Many of the lesser lights have been included in a team which will surely miss the experience of their captain and scrum half, Elwell. However, it will be countered by the fact that the Gloucestershire front row is one of the best in the country.

Taylor plays his first game since January

The former Wales and British Lions player, John Taylor, plays his first game on Saturday since he was injured in a game against Bath on January 11.

Taylor's return will be good news for the beleaguered London Welsh who will be seeking to avoid their eighth successive defeat when they meet Harlequins at Twickenham on Saturday. John Taylor returns at full-back from a shoulder injury and Powell takes over the problem spot at scrum half.

Solomon's ticket to Stockholm

Johannesburg, Nov. 25.—Harold Solomon, the United States-born tennis player, has won the men's singles today in the South African open tennis championships and gained a place in the grand prix masters tournament which starts next Sunday in Stockholm.

Solomon's victory by 6-2, 6-3, 6-4, over Brian Gottfried, also of the United States, earned him 80 points and pushed him past Eddie Dibbs into ninth place in the grand prix standings. He gets his place in the eight-man tournament because Jimmy Connors, sixth in the standings, turned down an invitation to compete. Solomon's win, which left him with 575 points to Dibbs's 570, earned him £5,000.

Ajax and AC Milan lead the UEFA pack

The former European Cup holders, Ajax and AC Milan, lead the pack of 16 challengers for a quarter-final place in the UEFA Cup today.

Ajax, who won the European Cup in 1971 and went on to win the UEFA Cup in 1972, are the favourites to win the tournament. They have a strong squad and a good record in European competition.

Today's fixtures

UEFA Cup: First leg. Manchester City v Liverpool (Liverpool, 7.30). Southampton v Tottenham (Tottenham, 7.30). Arsenal v Chelsea (Arsenal, 7.30). Aston Villa v Manchester United (Aston Villa, 7.30). Leeds United v Newcastle United (Leeds, 7.30). Ipswich Town v Norwich City (Ipswich, 7.30). Derby County v Sheffield Wednesday (Derby, 7.30). Nottingham Forest v Birmingham City (Nottingham, 7.30). Luton Town v Huddersfield Town (Luton, 7.30). Millwall v Charlton Athletic (Millwall, 7.30). Reading v Oxford United (Reading, 7.30). Exeter City v Yeovil Town (Exeter, 7.30). Torquay United v Dagenham & Redbridge (Torquay, 7.30). Maidstone United v Dover Athletic (Maidstone, 7.30). Dover Athletic v Maidstone United (Dover, 7.30). Dover Athletic v Maidstone United (Dover, 7.30). Dover Athletic v Maidstone United (Dover, 7.30).

Monday's results

LEAGUE CUP: Fourth round. Tottenham v Liverpool (Liverpool, 7.30). Southampton v Tottenham (Tottenham, 7.30). Arsenal v Chelsea (Arsenal, 7.30). Aston Villa v Manchester United (Aston Villa, 7.30). Leeds United v Newcastle United (Leeds, 7.30). Ipswich Town v Norwich City (Ipswich, 7.30). Derby County v Sheffield Wednesday (Derby, 7.30). Nottingham Forest v Birmingham City (Nottingham, 7.30). Luton Town v Huddersfield Town (Luton, 7.30). Millwall v Charlton Athletic (Millwall, 7.30). Reading v Oxford United (Reading, 7.30). Exeter City v Yeovil Town (Exeter, 7.30). Torquay United v Dagenham & Redbridge (Torquay, 7.30). Maidstone United v Dover Athletic (Maidstone, 7.30). Dover Athletic v Maidstone United (Dover, 7.30). Dover Athletic v Maidstone United (Dover, 7.30). Dover Athletic v Maidstone United (Dover, 7.30).

Motor racing

Fittipaldi hopes to be released from contract

San Paulo, Brazil, Nov. 25.—Aston Martin's Brazilian driver, Emerson Fittipaldi, hopes to be released from his contract with the team.

Fittipaldi, who drove for McLaren in this year's world championship series, confirmed at a press conference that he had signed for Cooper in 1976. He is looking for a new challenge and a change of scenery.

Gymnastics

Miss Korbut is fed up and wants to be an actress

Moscow, Nov. 25.—A disgruntled Olga Korbut says she is "sick and tired" of gymnastics and wants to be an actress.

Asked if she should eventually turn to training, Miss Korbut replied: "Never. I dream of being an actress. It would be perfect to enter the school of the Moscow Art Theatre. She said she had no thoughts of going into ballet. "I am too small. I won't make a ballerina."

Table tennis

British pair hope to land another title

Mr. Hammarley, who won the Hungarian Open title this month, and Carol Knight, his partner in the England team which took the title at the European Championships, combine again in the Scandinavian Open, at Kalmar from November 27 to 30.

England's men for Scandinavia are Nicholas Parris, who was a quarter-finalist in the recent Yugoslav Open, and Denis Neale. England's team for the European League match against Ireland, at Bath on December 11, is: Douglas (Worcestershire), H. Jarvis, D. Neale (Cleveland), J. Hammarley (Buckinghamshire) and L. Howard (Surrey). Captain: B. Burt.

Golf

Youngest woman player of year is a Scot

Sumner Cadden, aged 19, of Scotland, has become the youngest winner of the Women's Golfers of the Year trophy awarded by Deas.

Winning the trophy was the unanimous selection of a panel of golf writers as the player whose performance in her own right was the most outstanding. She is a member of the British women's championship at St. Andrews, only to be beaten by the experienced United States Curtis Cup player, Nancy Smyth, by 3 and 2.

It was a strenuous year for Miss Cadden, a former world junior champion. She won the British girls' title and was also runner-up for the British women's stroke-play and Scottish girls' championships. She was a member of the British and Irish team that played against Europe in the Vagliano Trophy, and represented Scotland in the junior and senior home international matches and the European team championship.

Miss Cadden's talents have been fully recognised by the British selectors, who have already chosen her for the part of the Curtis Cup match at Royal Lytham and St. Anne's in June.

Cricket

Boycce misses Test with torn ligaments

Brisbane, Nov. 25.—Keith Boyce, the West Indies most experienced bowler, has torn ligaments in his back and is out of consideration for the first cricket Test on Friday against Australia.

Boycce has appeared in 17 Tests and was acknowledged as the team's fastest bowler after his debut in the first Test of this tour as a fast bowler of great potential. West Indies will select their Test team on Tuesday.

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Open Martini goes to South Wales in 1976

For the first time since its inauguration in 1961 the Martini Golf tournament is to become an open event. The Martini returned to South Wales in 1976 and will be staged at Ashburton Golf Club, near Llanelli, from June 9 to 12, with a pre-qualifying round on Monday, June 7, at a venue to be announced later.

In the absence of Faria of the European three-day event champion, Luciano Prior-Palmer, her father, Major-General Errol Prior-Palmer, received the British Squash Writers' association trophy from Alan Smith, the chairman, for the personality of the association at the Cash Royal yesterday.

Trophy awarded

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Worcestershire can register Inman

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In the spring a young girl's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of the 800 metres
'Miss Britain' enters a new world

Men eat too, so why aren't boys taught to cook?



Katie Stewart Pastry for the daring

Puff pastry is the most difficult of all the pastries to make but it's by far the most rewarding. No other pastry rises like it—because of the many layers of butter and dough built up by the rolls and folds given in the preparation. I am not going to suggest that anyone who is nervous about making pastry should make this one. It's a pastry for a cook who has mastered the simpler recipes and would like to try something more exciting. I would suggest that others use ready-made frozen puff pastry.

Nobody knows more about making pastry than Peter Kromberg, who is the executive chef at the new Hotel Inter-Continental which dominates Hyde Park Corner in London. Peter Kromberg is acknowledged as a brilliant chef and his specialties for Le Soufflé, the hotel's restaurant, are much talked about. Peter agreed that puff pastry is tricky and he added that no one should be too discouraged if they fail to get it right the first time.

He said that butter was the most difficult fat to use because it softens so quickly. He suggested that a home cook should use a hard, waxy margarine that would make the pastry easier to handle. He stressed the importance of even rolling so that the pastry rises level, and rolling the dough in between rolls and folds so that the dough relaxes. A cool, steady surface to work on, he said, was an absolute necessity. A marble slab is best for any pastry and with luck you could find an old wash stand top in good condition.

Otherwise use a wooden kitchen table top or a large pastry board, but avoid a Formica surface—you need a surface that will not take up the warmth of the kitchen.

Although the overall preparation time for puff pastry is considerable because the pastry has to be rested, the actual handling time is quite short. Here is a recipe to combine with other jobs.

© Times Newspapers Ltd. 1975

shape bag and put in a cool place to rest for an hour, or longer.

Preparing the fat

For a standard "three-quarter" puff pastry take 5 oz of waxy margarine or butter. For a richer "full" puff pastry use 7 oz of fat, but it might be easier to use the smaller quantity for a first effort. The fat used should not be cold from the refrigerator. One of the basic principles in cookery is that two items will only combine together if they are at the same temperature. Fat very hard from the refrigerator will not roll out evenly with a softer dough. Cut the butter or margarine off a block piece and place between two buttered papers, then with a rolling pin beat out gently to an oblong about 1 inch thick. Or, you can beat the fat down on a plate with a knife and shape into an oblong about 1 inch thick.

Encasing the fat in the dough

Roll out the rested dough to a strip about one third of an inch thick—a common mistake is to roll the dough too thinly. Place the butter in the centre. The pastry strip should be about 1 inch wider than the butter on each side and long enough for you to fold the ends into the centre and enclose the butter completely. Seal sides by pressing gently with the rolling pin. Then give the dough a half turn to bring sealed sides to the top and bottom.

Rolling and folding

Start the rolling out by tapping the dough sharply with the rolling pin, working from the centre up to the top and down to the bottom edge to start it moving. Then roll out quickly and lightly until the strip is three times as long as it is wide.

Fold evenly into three, bottom third up over the centre and the top third down over both. Seal the sides by pressing gently with the pin and give the dough a half turn to bring the sealed sides to the top and bottom. Repeat the rolling and folding once more and the pastry has now had two rolls and folds. Place inside the polythene bag and rest in a cool place at least 30 minutes. Give the pastry another two rolls and folds (that is four in all) and rest as before. Finally give another two rolls and folds (that is six in all) then cover and rest in a cool place until ready to use.

A useful "trick of the trade" among pastry cooks is to impress the finger tips in the dough to indicate how many rolls and folds it has had. It's so easy to forget if you are doing other things in between. So after the first two rolls and folds mark the dough with two finger imprints, after the second mark with four imprints and when the pastry is finished it should show six finger imprints.

One of Peter Kromberg's specialties is a delicious eel soup which he serves in individual soup cups

with a thin puff pastry crust completely enclosing the top. It's so obviously a good idea for a dinner party that I asked him about it. He suggested that anyone could use a soup of their own choice. For a dinner party something a little special, like a game soup. The method is to put the cold soup into individual soup cups—they would have to be oven proof, so choose something like the little fireproof Marmite pots. Roll some puff pastry out quite thinly and, using an empty Marmite pot for size, cut out circles of the pastry a little larger than the pot all round. Allow one for each serving.

Brush round outside rim of each soup pot with a little egg wash—lightly mixed egg with a little water—to make the pastry stick. Place a circle of pastry over each soup pot and press with the fingers all round to seal, so that the pastry completely covers the pot enclosing the soup.

Up to this stage you can prepare them in advance and they can now be placed in the refrigerator. When ready to serve, brush over the pastry tops with a little egg. Put them straight into a hot oven (450 deg F or Gas No 8) and allow them to bake for 15-20 minutes or until the pastry is crisp and brown and the soup perfectly heated through. You can tell if the soup is hot enough by feeling the base of the soup pots. Take them straight from the oven to the table.

The pastry top keeps the soup deliciously hot and Peter Kromberg suggests that you add a tablespoon of port to your soup, then when the pastry crust is broken the most appetising aroma is released. You can if you like, make some of the pastry trimmings into little decorations which can be stuck to the pastry cover. His favourite is to shape them into a bunch of grapes, but don't make a decoration that is too heavy or it will drag the pastry inwards.

My own specialty are my vol-au-vent cases and at this time of year I make at least a dozen because they are very useful for dinner parties and will be especially handy over Christmas when there will be cooked turkey or chicken to use as a filling. Puff pastry freezes very well so I put mine prepared, but unbaked, in the freezer and I can take out as many as I require at a moment's notice.

To make vol-au-vent cases

Roll out 1 lb homemade or one (13 oz) packet of thawed frozen puff pastry to a thickness of about 1/4 inch. Lightly flour a baking tray and slide the pastry on to it. Chill in the refrigerator so that the pastry firms up and makes the cutting of the circles easier.

Replace the chilled pastry on to the pastry board and using a floured 3 inch cutter, stamp out 12 circles. Using a palette knife to lift the circles (so they are not

pulled out of shape) transfer six of them on to a flat tray. Prick them well with a fork and brush lightly with beaten egg.

Using a smaller 2 inch cutter, stamp out the centre of the remaining six circles. Lift these rings and turn them over on to the pastry circles. Press gently to seal. Freeze the prepared cases and the small centre circles uncovered until hard. Then pack in polythene freezer bags for storing.

To use, simply transfer as many cases as required, not forgetting a lid for each one, on to a plate and allow them to thaw for an hour in the refrigerator. Then place on a baking tray which has been held under the cold tap for a moment, so that it is quite wet. The steam from this moisture helps give the pastry a lift during baking. Place in the centre of a very hot oven (450 deg F or Gas No 8) and bake for 15 to 20 minutes or until well risen. Then lower the heat to hot (400 deg F or Gas No 6) and bake for a further 10 minutes until the cases are crisp. With a fork remove any soft pastry from the centre of each one and spoon in your filling. Allow about 1 pint well seasoned white sauce with pieces of cooked chicken, ham, smoked haddock or prawns with a squeeze of lemon juice to sharpen the flavour. Top with the lids and they are ready to serve.

Puff pastry can be used to make very good savouries for a drinks party. The pastry is rich, but a little goes a long way. You could make the following fingers of anchovy in puff pastry ready for baking and then put them in the oven about 20 minutes before serving.

Anchovies in puff pastry

On a floured board roll 1 lb homemade or one (7 1/2 oz) packet of thawed frozen puff pastry to a rectangle about 8 inches wide and 14 inches long. Trim all the edges straight with a knife and then cut the pastry in half lengthwise to make two strips. Brush one strip with a little beaten egg and arrange the contents of a tin of anchovy fillers side by side down the strip.

Cover with the second strip of pastry and press the edges well together. Using a sharp knife cut across the strips to get 24 thin fingers of puff pastry with anchovy inside. Chill until ready to bake. Then brush the tops with egg and arrange the fingers of pastry on a wet baking tray. Place in the centre of a hot oven (425 deg F or Gas No 7) and bake for 15 minutes. Serve hot.

Peter Kromberg suggested that you could cut strips of pastry into small triangles and then roll them up to make tiny puff pastry croissants. Before shaping them you could sprinkle the pastry with grated Parmesan cheese, crabmeat or finely chopped ham and then bake them as above.

Cognac Rémy Martin



Rare coffee pot in Spode's Stone China decorated with Pattern No. 2061, c.1817

Mr. Josiah Spode would approve

Great cognac ages just as a great antique does, becomes more valued with each year of its life. France awards the designation

Fine Champagne V.S.O.P. only to the rare, older few from the heart of the Cognac region. It is for this connoisseur's cognac that Rémy Martin is famous.

REMY MARTIN FINE CHAMPAGNE V.S.O.P

Stock Exchange Prices

Properties easier

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Nov 17. Dealings End Nov 28. § Contango Day, Dec 1. Settlement Day, Dec 9
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

For Really Discerning Drinkers
HIGH & DRY
Really Dry Gin

[illegible]

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

A defence of deficit financing as a counter to recession, p 25

Mr Wilson tells Chrysler chief 'imperative you return for talks today'

Edward Townsend
Mr John Riccardo, chairman of the Chrysler Corporation of America, is coming to London tomorrow to discuss the company's move to Leyland.

The move to Leyland, which was announced yesterday, is a major step in the company's strategy to expand its presence in the UK. Mr Riccardo is expected to discuss the details of the move with Mr Wilson, who is the Minister of Industry.

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Complaints of Simca 'push' in Belgium

From David Cross
Lille, Nov 25

After 20 years of selling Rootes and then British-made Chrysler cars, M. Maurice Laruelle, a Belgian garage owner, is giving up his Chrysler UK dealership at the end of the year.

Two of his colleagues, M. Richard Desogre and M. Luc Mathieu, from the nearby towns of Amay and Longlier, have already given up their Chrysler UK franchises to sell Fiat and Peugeot cars.

Decision this week on Monopolies reference over Furness Withy

By Malcolm Brown

A reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission of the affairs of Furness Withy, the British shipping company, and Eurocanadian Shipholdings, a Bermuda-based investment company, is being seriously considered by the Government.

An announcement will be made by Mrs Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Affairs, later this week.

The Government is known to have been sufficiently concerned by the build-up of the Eurocanadian Holdings stake in Furness and Manchester Liners, its subsidiary, to have examined the Industry Act provisions covering change of control of companies to non-residents of the United Kingdom.

But these provisions, which allow the Government to prohibit such moves, are thought to be inappropriate since they cover only manufacturing undertakings.

Mr John Le Quesne, who takes over the chairmanship of the Commission from Sir Ashton Roskill shortly.

The Commission's investigation into the affairs of Furness Withy and Eurocanadian Shipholdings is being seriously considered by the Government.

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Inspectors advise IHA to tighten procedures

By Our Financial Staff

The Issuing Houses Association, whose members include most of the City's merchant banks, has been advised to tighten up its procedures. The advice is given in the Department of Trade report on the collapsed dress manufacturer, Blanes, published yesterday.

It is unusual for inspectors to comment in quite so direct a fashion on the wider issues of their investigations. At the end of the report one of two issued on Blanes yesterday, the inspectors, Mr D. A. L. Smour and Mr B. E. Basden suggest "a code of practice could with advantage be considered by issuing houses, with a view to setting out, as may be appropriate, rules or standards relating to public issues."

The investigation, started in 1971, showed that there was a "special arrangement" made before Blanes went public in 1963. Under this the group's family director could sell further shares to Investment Registry, the issuing house, without informing shareholders.

The inspectors recommend that safeguards preventing such abuses be instituted. At present the major rule governing members of the IHA is that it should not interfere with the way members conduct their businesses so long as they obey the City Takeover Code and satisfy Stock Exchange requirements.

The inspectors also recommend that guidelines regarding participation of professional advisers in public offers be clarified. This follows their findings that the passing of the family shares to the senior partner of the chartered accountancy firm, Nymans Libson, and solicitors, Howard Kennedy & Rossi, the day after the public offer, was "in wanton disregard of the terms of the prospectus".

In the two simultaneous reports the inspectors say that Mr Frank Russell, the former chairman, "contributed in substantial measure" to the boardroom disputes.

No legal action is being taken over any of the findings of the inspectors' reports.

IPC scraps merger opposed by workers

By Desmond Quigley

Workers' opposition has forced the International Publishing Corporation, part of Reed International, to abandon plans to merge its gravure printing plant with the British Printing Corporation's similar plant at Watford, IPC said yesterday.

Because of declining demand for gravure printing the two groups had proposed to merge the two plants, which are separated by less than three miles, under a new jointly-owned company.

However, IPC has now pulled out of the proposed merger because of the strong opposition from shopfloor workers at Othames, although most of the trade unions at national level had apparently backed the scheme.

Mr Les Carpenter, chairman and chief executive of IPC, said last night: "Unless we get agreement and cooperation it was never on."

The plan envisaged a gradual move to the Sun plant over a period of three years and, if carried out in the face of the workers' opposition, would have resulted in chaos.

He said the problem was one of very entrenched attitudes coupled with the refusal to accept the need for the closure of Othames. "We underestimated the feeling they had that in a merged situation there would have been a loss of identity."

There were no plans to close the Othames site, Mr Carpenter said, but there were bound to be some redundancies—perhaps some 180 to 200—among the staff of 2,200.

There are also likely to be redundancies at the Sun plant as well which lost £500,000 in the first six months of the year, although IPC would make no comment on this point last night.

Ranger oil agrees to state share

By Roger Violevo

The Canadian-owned Ranger Oil Co., a major partner in the development of the Ninian North Sea oilfield, has become the eighth company to agree to the principle of majority state participation in its offshore operations.

In addition the Department of Energy has agreed to guarantee interim bank advances to Ranger to a maximum of £20m (£10m) plus interest until the spring of next year, when the company expects to start long-term financing for the Ninian development.

Ranger holds a 20 per cent interest in the southern part of the Ninian field in partnership with British Petroleum and London and Scottish Marine Oil and Transportation Company, all of whom have agreed in principle to state participation.

The interim agreement on guarantees, announced yesterday by Mr Anthony Wedgwood Benn, the Secretary of State for Energy, gives the company valuable time in which to conclude its participation agreement and fix the long term financing deal.

The report refers to other false entries for tax evasion purposes, and the large-scale selling of shares by Mr Harry Bernard, Mr Bernard Lever and Mr Edward Lever, without the knowledge of other directors.

The firm of Somers, Baker and Partners, who shared the joint auditorship of Bernard Russell with Nymans Libson, "failed to carry out their duties as joint auditors throughout the company's history", the inspectors said.

No legal action is being taken over any of the findings of the inspectors' reports.

Officials hopeful of settlement

From Frank Vogel

Washington, Nov 25

There are high hopes among Chrysler officials that the latest round of talks with the British Government will bring a final agreement. But they refuse to comment on any aspect beyond saying that negotiations have reached "a most sensitive and delicate stage."

Government officials may place heavy pressure on the Chrysler negotiators, saying now it is clear they refuse to announce an overall operating profit for the current quarter after a year of losses.

The long-hoped-for recovery in the United States market, which is vital for Chrysler's own financial recovery and which could provide a cushion to absorb temporary losses, does not appear to be more certain than ever.

The success of Chrysler and its rivals in recent weeks is bound to be a point stressed by the British officials in the new round of talks.

While the new small Chrysler car scheduled to be introduced late in 1977 may be designed along similar lines to the small Simca 1308, it will be entirely produced in the United States.

Mr Leonard Woodcock, head of the United Auto Workers Union, said that Volkswagen had shelved plans to go ahead with some type of joint venture with Chrysler. It is believed that Mr Woodcock's information comes from West German union officials, who would be in a position to know what is happening because they are members of VW's supervisory board of directors.

A spokesman for Volkswagen of America said that no decision had been taken and that the supervisory board of the company in Wolfsburg, West Germany, recently decided to go ahead with investigations into the possibility of a joint venture with Chrysler or American Motors, or the development by the company on its own of an American assembly plant.

Leyland bus and truck plants hit by walk out

By R. W. Shakespeare

British Leyland has run into labour problems at its five bus and truck plants in Lancashire, where 300 foremen have walked out over what they claim is a wrong interpretation of the Government's 55 a week pay rise policy.

The foremen, who belong to the Association of Scientific and Managerial Staffs, claim that the company's decision that a new pay scale, which came into effect on November 1, cannot be back dated to mid-September means that they are each losing £36—the maximum £5 a week increase for six weeks.

Last night a spokesman for the bus and truck plants said that production was being maintained "as efficiently as possible."

At Cowley, after the weekend's warnings of a possible shutdown of car assembly lines, unless sharp levels were improved, an uneasy peace was being preserved yesterday.

Management and shop floor representatives seem to be anxious to avoid any sort of provocative action.

Jobless at post-war peak

Continued from page 1

continues even at recent levels. The total would be carried over and 1.5 million mark before the end of 1976.

But Government ministers will no doubt take comfort from the way that school leavers still are being absorbed by the labour market, and tentative signs that the Chancellor's recent employment measures may be having some success in containing the growth in the jobless total.

Indeed, some 25,000 school leavers are shown to have left the unemployment register last month, leaving 40,000 still registered. This compares with 58,000 registered in August and a total of half a million under school leavers.

As a result the crude unemployment figure for Britain, before seasonal adjustment and including school leavers and out students, showed a rise last month of only 5,900. On his less refined measure, the jobless total stood at 1,120,000 in Northern Ireland there was a 2,000 fall to 48,800.

Another glimmer of hope may also lie in the response that is being experienced to the temporary employment subsidy. The Department of Employment said yesterday that up to 10,000 applications involving 10,000 workers had been received.

About 67 had been approved, affecting 7,435 workers. This scheme, which was introduced in August, is said to be causing tremendous interest and a high degree of "take up".

Under the scheme a grant is made to subsidise, at £10 a week, the employment of workers who might otherwise be made redundant in companies facing a downturn in prospects where skilled labour will be needed when the world economic recession ends.

It is estimated that 60,000 workers may eventually be covered by the scheme, which forms part of the Government's £175m package of measures to limit unemployment.

But with Britain certain this year to suffer the largest drop in the level of its output of goods and services for 44 years, further sharp increases in unemployment seem unavoidable.

How the markets moved

Rises
Ass News 9p to 100p
Bk of NSW 15p to 68p
Broken Hill 20p to 69p
Covet 3p to 31p
Covet 2p to 30p
GEC 1p to 14p
Jacks W. 1p to 14p

Falls
Brit Am Tob 3p to 32p
BP 18p to 57p
Coca Cola 1p to 22p
Covet 1p to 41p
Duple Int 3p to 38p
Eaton 2p to 22p
Fisons 2p to 23p
Lloyds Bk 2p to 23p

Gold edged securities saw two-way trade.
Equities were dull, with the institutions absent from the market.
Sterling lost 5 p to 52.0375. The "effective devaluation" rate was 29.8 per cent.

Yarrow figures delayed by terms for cancelled ships

By Our Financial Staff

Preliminary profit figures and the annual accounts of Yarrow, whose shipbuilding subsidiary is on the Government's nationalisation list, have been delayed. This is because compensation terms for the cancellation of contracts for five Type 21 frigates for the Royal Navy, which were not settled, had advanced enough for the company to expect a satisfactory outcome soon.

Yarrow is also seeking permission from the Ministry of Defence and the Department of Trade for its shipbuilding subsidiary to pay a dividend with distributions here circumscribed by earlier government grants.

The Type 21 frigate order has a chequered history, first running into trouble over two years ago when Yarrow announced delays caused by lack of technical information from the authorities. Discussions about settling the contracts have gone on for more than a year.

THE POUND

Australia \$ 1.68
Austria S 38.75
Belgium Fr 84.00
Canada \$ 12.25
Denmark Kr 8.15
Finland Mk 9.25
France Fr 5.45
Germany DM 3.25
Greece 9.15
Hong Kong \$ 10.15
Italy L 156.00
Japan Yn 645.00
Netherlands Gld 11.50
Norway Kr 11.50
Portugal Esc 75.00
Spain Pes 167.50
Sweden Kr 5.55
Switzerland Fr 2.06
US \$ 2.45
Yugoslavia Dn 42.50

SDR-£ was 1.17632 on Tuesday, while SDR-£ was 0.57702.
Commodities: Rubber India was at 1132.4 (previous 1126.5).
Reports, pages 26 and 27

On other pages
Business appointments 24
Letters 24
Business Diary 25
Financial Editor 25
Financial news 26 and 27
Wall Street 27
Trust Prices 27
Misc prices 27

U.S. bull market in 1976?

Merrill Lynch invite investors to a forum on U.S. growth stocks 2nd December

at 6-00 p.m. Time & Life Building, 153 New Bond Street, London W1Y 9PA.

We'll analyse the declining rate of inflation and the prospect of falling interest rates in the U.S. We'll explain what we believe to be a new bull market. And we'll set these grounds for optimism against grounds for current uncertainty like rising commodity prices, low consumer confidence, growth in debt at all levels and unprecedented federal deficits.

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Mr Murray calls for selective import controls

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, yesterday called for import controls to save and restore jobs.

"The unions are not asking for a return to the protectionism of the 1930s," he said, "but they do not ignore the latest unemployment figures, particularly the heavy loss of jobs in industries competing against a high level of manufactured imports."

Mr Murray, who was speaking at a World Traders' Club luncheon in London, said: "To save jobs and restore jobs in these industries, and to give these industries a base from which to revive as world trade revives, the TUC is looking for import controls. No action, but not an overly selective and not a permanent feature of life but temporary."

UNEMPLOYMENT AND VACANCIES

The following are the monthly figures for Great Britain released by the Department of Employment yesterday.

	Unemployed	Total Seasonally adjusted	Adult vacancies	Adult vacancies seasonally adjusted
	'000s	'000s	'000s	'000s
1975				
Dec	486	480	2.1	359
1974				
Jan	606	538	2.4	305
Feb	599	552	2.4	279
Mar	580	547	2.4	275
Apr	545	548	2.4	298
May	536	548	2.4	315
Jun	516	562	2.5	319
Jul	567	577	2.5	317
Aug	558	597	2.6	301
Sep	647	603	2.7	301
Oct	613	607	2.7	294
Nov	621	613	2.7	273
Dec	↑	↑	↑	↑
1975				
Jan	742	678	3.0	192†
Feb	757	705	3.2	186
Mar	768	722	3.2	186
Apr	800	780	3.3	178
May	813	817	3.6	156
Jun	831	884	3.8	141
Jul	1,036	938	4.2	129
Aug	1,195	987	4.4	135
Sep	1,194	987	4.4	124
Oct	1,114	1,043	4.6	124
Nov	1,120	1,079	4.7	115

†Including school leavers and out students.
†Not available.

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Investigations that often lead nowhere

In defence of deficit financing as a weapon against recession

The view that deficit spending by governments crowds out spending by the private sector, was a characteristic of pre-Keynesian economics which appeared to be recently buried. It was disturbing, therefore, to find Mr Tim Congdon in his article "The Futility of Deficit Financing as a Cure for Recession" (October 23) reviving the old fallacies.

Mr Congdon was right to compare the crowding out thesis with the fashionable Treasury view of the 1930s. It is as dangerous now as it was then. No one should doubt that the consequences of attempts to reduce the government deficit substantially, before other expansionary forces get going, would be a dire increase in unemployment.

The term crowding out has been used to mean a direct threat. Of course, if an economy is fully employed, any component of expenditure competes with all others; a preemption of resources by the public sector would crowd out private expenditure.

Moreover, it is common ground that a tight monetary policy may discourage private spending, and hence, wholly or in part, offset expansionary fiscal action. But, as the term is being used, crowding out is the thesis that a public sector deficit, financed by borrowing, would automatically crowd out private spending to about the same extent, even in a situation of unemployment and general under-utilization of resources. It was this view that was so damaging in the thirties.

Recently it has become associated with a type of extreme monetarism and with the claim that fiscal policy is, in the medium-term, completely ineffective in altering the level of activity. (Clearly it is only the money supply that matters, then, and not the financing of public deficits, which do not affect the money supply, cannot affect activity.)

How plausible is the crowding out thesis? The usual argument is that sales of public debt to finance a deficit raise interest rates and deter interest-sensitive private expenditure. Mr Congdon wrote: "If the Government has to sell bonds, it absorbs liquidity from the financial system and drives up interest rates."

This argument is misleading. The public has the same amount of liquid assets as before; it simply has more bonds, as well. (The bonds are sold for cash, but the government has a deficit only if it then spends the cash back into the system.) Of course, since the public needs to be persuaded to hold the larger quantity of bonds without trying to get into other assets such as cash or equities, there is likely to be some rise in interest rates.

But even if gilt-edged prices do weaken, would this deter industrial investment, and, if so, by how much? The mechanisms are complex. It would appear safe to assume that bond-financed deficit would become more expensive. But what about other types of finance?

A desire not to hold gilt-edged stock does not imply a desire to hold cash instead. It could easily involve an attempt to switch into equities, in which case, equity finance might even become cheaper.

Most importantly, however, the deficit itself has effects both on the private sector and on the economy and on the public sector. These effects, considered below, are probably the most powerful, and would tend to stimulate investment.

In fact, real interest rates are far lower. Most savers know to their cost that it is difficult to get a real return these days. The argument that the rise in personal savings, which has been observed in most industrial countries, is due to the attraction of high interest rates, is not plausible. Consumers have not been crowded out by bond-financed public sector deficits.

It is true, however, that personal savings have risen to a puzzling extent. Why should people save more in times of recession, especially when real returns are low?

The traditional analysis suggests that consumers act in a stabilizing way, saving more as incomes rise and malinvesting their expenditure as incomes fall. Nonetheless, practice shows that consumers have long been aware of the beginning of a slump. The reason he gave was that the decline in stock market values would deter consumption and lead to attempts by the public to reconstitute their wealth position. At present, the decline in asset values is reinforced by inflation. Holdings of financial assets are being eroded. If economic agents try to maintain the real value of their wealth then they have to try to save more.

But other explanations that are often advanced is that there is a deterioration in the financial position of companies. Their receipts must fall in relation to their expenditure. But this is not the end of the story. As the painful experiences of 1974 make clear, companies whose financial position worsens in the above manner attempt to rectify the situation by cutting their expenditure, as by lowering investment and laying off workers. They also attempt to raise receipts, where possible, by raising prices.

Such moves are doomed to failure. They are just as futile in aggregate as an attempt by all countries in the world simultaneously to improve their balance of payments positions. The only way the company sector can improve its position (its receipts in relation to its expenditure) is if the position of some other sector or sectors worsens.

This is where the public sector deficit comes in. However financed, a public sector deficit allows the private sector to raise its receipts in relation to its expenditure. (Strictly it is excess of the public sector deficit over the balance of payments deficit that allows the improvement in the private sector position.) Savers can save more (or borrowers borrow less).

The financial counterpart to a deficit is that individuals or companies are building up their assets. Thus a rise in the public sector deficit can stop the downward swing even if households act in a stabilizing way.

In practice, much of the rise in the public sector deficit comes about automatically as unemployment payments rise and so on. But discretionary moves are also necessary. If the increased desire to save or decreased desire to invest is substantial then the deficit will have to be correspondingly large, if large scale unemployment is to be avoided.

Thus, at present, the main effect of the public sector deficit is to support the financial position of companies. The going into debt less. The implications of this are that some other sector must be saving less; that for some group or sector of the economy the balance between receipts and expenditure must worsen. That is a matter of accounting.

Assuming no change in either the foreign deficit or in the public sector, the consequence of increased household savings

lower the net saving of some other sector. Without the deficit of the public sector there would be a return to the cash flow and liquidity difficulties of the first half of 1974 (or worse) and, in time, further cut-backs in investment and massive rises in unemployment.

The crowding-out thesis could not be more misleading. Far from competing with private investment, a public sector deficit is necessary to prevent further falls.

Of course, the way in which a deficit is financed does matter. Corresponding to different methods of finance, the public accumulate either liquid or illiquid assets and the pure monetary effects differ.

The interesting set of questions at present concerns the cumulative effects of public sector deficits. In the normal course of events the deficit observed all over the industrial world would be expected to generate a substantial up-swing in activity.

As noted, individuals and companies must be building up their asset positions as a counterpart to the deficit. Over time, the effects should cumulate; the financial restocking process should be completed, and expenditures should rise. Indeed, there is a danger that a reversal to more normal savings-investment patterns could lead to substantial over-shoot.

But times are not normal. Inflation is having more effect in eroding asset positions than usual and the climate of expectations and confidence is adverse. In such circumstances judgments about the appropriate size of the public sector deficit, and especially about the timing of fiscal moves, are exceptionally difficult to make. The very last thing that is appropriate would be a return to the fiscal orthodoxy of the inter-war period.

The author is a Fellow of New College, Oxford. He was formerly with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, where he was head of the Economic Prospects Division and editor of Economic Outlook.

Mr Edgar Bowring, chairman of C. T. Bowring, the Bowmaker subsidiary has been arranged a £25m one-year facility.

This is the kind of stock where dividends could fall as well as rise.

For the opening six months to mid-March Akroyd caught the market recovery as its most dynamic to turn in £5.66m pre-tax on turnover (of sold bargains) of £5.84m. But despite a further increase in turnover to £7,709m in the second half, the pre-tax outcome was £1.65m. In part that reflects a very much higher proportion of business in short-gilts and a lower volume of equity turnover, but it also reflects a more volatile market and a market that reacted more sharply than many expected following the referendum.

Final: 1974-75 (1973-74) Capitalization £10m Sales £4,553m (£3,723m) Pre-tax profits £7.31m (£3.55m) Earnings per share 37.5p (21.1p) Dividend gross 23p (16.9p) *including 3.8p centenary dividend.

Edgar Allen, Balfour Resilient sectors

Edgar Allen, Balfour breaks down the interim results to October 4 as between the original Edgar Allen group and Balfour Darwins, acquired on March 17.

Edgar Allen boosted its pre-tax profits by nearly 63 per cent on turnover up by a third to £15.5m, but Balfour Darwins saw its profits decline from £588,000 to just £71,000 over the same period, even though turnover rose nearly a fifth to £20.6m.

True, Balfour Darwins was always a cyclical performer, and 1974 was an exceptionally good year for steel sales. Even so, the fact that Balfour made a loss at engineering and tools in the first half this year, and a fairly modest profit on steel foundry and forging activities, while Edgar Allen made substantial profits on all these activities requires a more specific explanation.

It seems to be that Edgar Allen has applied much more conservative accounting treatment to Balfour than the former management and hence the benefits of the merger, particularly at the earnings per share level, may take a little longer coming through than the pro-forma position suggested.

Order books for the combined grouping have fallen by nearly a quarter in money terms since this time last year (particularly for special steels and engineers' cutting tools) but EA, B is confident enough about the resilience of the group to suggest that trading will come out at around £3m this year against £2.17m for Edgar Allen alone last year. On this basis the

prospective p/e ratio is around 6 at 61p and the shares yield a prospective 9 1/2 per cent. They are probably fully valued however, in the light of how the order situation is developing.

Interim: 1975/76 (1974/75) Capitalization £9m Sales £26.1m (£11.71m) Pre-tax profits £1.5m (£0.88m) Dividend gross 1.85p (1.79p) *Edgar Allen only.

Bowmaker Retrenchment seems complete

After obtaining its first three-year loan of £20m, Bowmaker was talking of an average maturity of its deposit book of over a year. Since then it has raised a further £5m three-year loan and now a £25m one-year facility which it expects to be renewable. This will enable it to cut out yet more one and three month deposits and, in the context of overall borrowings of some £125m, will mean it is very close to being fully matched on its loan portfolio—typically made up of two-year loans.

The new facility will give Bowmaker a useful cushion, and while consumer and industrial credit business is likely to continue at a low ebb in the near future, should at least enable it to start taking a more expansive view than it has been able to do in recent months. Until now the loan portfolio has been reducing but it would now seem that Bowmaker has fully emerged from its period of retrenchment.

Yarrow Terms to be negotiated

Any sensible stock market assessment of the candidates for nationalisation under the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill is still bedevilled by the absence of any precise guidelines on the compensation terms the companies are likely to receive. In most cases the reference time for arriving at the compensation figure is academic with only two quoted shipbuilders, Robb Caledon and Vosper, to be taken over lock, stock and barrel. In the remaining cases, where various assets and liabilities are to be taken under state control, the basis for compensation—whether by reference to assets, or earnings, or whatever—has not been spelt out even at this late stage.

To compound the felony, arbitration procedures could stretch out the period of uncertainty for up to two years. Thus Yarrow's share price during the seasonal reference period averaged 116p. Depending on whether assets or earnings are to be the basis for compensation—and shipbuilders obviously prefer the former because of the industry's low return on capital—Yarrow's compensation could be as low as 50p a share or as much as 30p.

With non-shipbuilding interests in boiler-making and marine consultancy worth another 75p in the last balance sheet—though they contributed less than a tenth of profits—there still looks something to go for in the shares of 134p if the more optimistic figure for compensation is taken.

Meanwhile, though the exact profit figures are not yet known, Yarrow has come through a difficult trading year in better shape than many others. A yield of 4.3 per cent at 134p on the dividend increased to 5.77p a share gross is a just reflection that Yarrow is one of the safest shipbuilding speculations.

International Business Machines, according to conventional wisdom, is good at marketing, prodigious with technology, sufficient in its employee relations, tight-lipped to the outside world, and profitable.

According to the company itself, it is dedicated to excellence. Its spokesmen profess pained wonder at outside criticism, which they claim to see as arising from the company's size and success.

According to Mr Rex Malik, freelance computer journalist, IBM has been characterized by "technological sloth, managerial arrogance, economic greed." One of its internal documents, he says, admits to "virtually a litany of every practice at some time or other, including illegal under-American anti-trust laws," and over the years it has been responsible for a flourishing "pattern of lies, evasions, half-truths and deception."

Mr Malik reaches these conclusions from a close study of the company—"without the help, cooperation or encouragement of IBM"—and in particular from a perusal of internal

documents submitted as evidence when Telcel, a supplier of IBM-compatible peripheral equipment, sued IBM on anti-trust charges alleging monopolistic and predatory commercial practices.

It is these internal company reports and memoranda which make Mr Malik's book rather more than a volume of speculation about IBM. In earlier books we have read of the dubious commercial practices of Tom Watson (Sr), father of the company, and of some of the more amusing and/or horrific aspects of working for IBM—the jag, the flipcharts, the task forces, the "penalty boxes" and "Siberias" where managers are sent whose excellence is found wanting, and so on.

We read of them again here, plus a brief history of the company. And, as in the previous books, the flavour of the company is conveyed by quotations from anonymous IBM people and former IBM people.

But the main theme of Mr Malik's book is drawn from the words of IBM's officers, words which were certainly not intended to see the light of day or be discussed outside the company. If IBM is to be condemned, it is here condemned out of its own mouth.

The story is about power—the power of the relatively few men who control this huge company; the power of the company itself, which when sued on anti-trust charges by the United States Justice Department, mounts a legal force 10 times as strong as that of the federal government.

On the evidence, Mr Malik says, IBM has manipulated prices as it has manipulated legal processes to its own advantage. There are suggestions of the intimidation of Telcel witnesses; there is IBM's ludicrous list of alleged "competitors". Competitors include IBM's larger customers, the company argues, so that as IBM's business grows the company (relatively) becomes smaller in the market.

Much of the story is technical in that it is told in the model numbers and acronyms which are familiar to those in the industry, but are as Greek to those outside. And it is Mr Malik's personal interpretation of the facts—but one which on many points is consistent with the impression of IBM held by other observers in the United Kingdom.

In a brief company statement, IBM declines to comment on "the inaccuracies, innuendoes and erroneous conclusions" of Mr Malik's book. Fair enough, but what about the rest of it?

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Final: 1974-75 (1973-74) Capitalization £10m Sales £4,553m (£3,723m) Pre-tax profits £7.31m (£3.55m) Earnings per share 37.5p (21.1p) Dividend gross 23p (16.9p) *including 3.8p centenary dividend.

Edgar Allen, Balfour Resilient sectors

Edgar Allen, Balfour breaks down the interim results to October 4 as between the original Edgar Allen group and Balfour Darwins, acquired on March 17.

Edgar Allen boosted its pre-tax profits by nearly 63 per cent on turnover up by a third to £15.5m, but Balfour Darwins saw its profits decline from £588,000 to just £71,000 over the same period, even though turnover rose nearly a fifth to £20.6m.

True, Balfour Darwins was always a cyclical performer, and 1974 was an exceptionally good year for steel sales. Even so, the fact that Balfour made a loss at engineering and tools in the first half this year, and a fairly modest profit on steel foundry and forging activities, while Edgar Allen made substantial profits on all these activities requires a more specific explanation.

It seems to be that Edgar Allen has applied much more conservative accounting treatment to Balfour than the former management and hence the benefits of the merger, particularly at the earnings per share level, may take a little longer coming through than the pro-forma position suggested.

Order books for the combined grouping have fallen by nearly a quarter in money terms since this time last year (particularly for special steels and engineers' cutting tools) but EA, B is confident enough about the resilience of the group to suggest that trading will come out at around £3m this year against £2.17m for Edgar Allen alone last year. On this basis the

prospective p/e ratio is around 6 at 61p and the shares yield a prospective 9 1/2 per cent. They are probably fully valued however, in the light of how the order situation is developing.

Interim: 1975/76 (1974/75) Capitalization £9m Sales £26.1m (£11.71m) Pre-tax profits £1.5m (£0.88m) Dividend gross 1.85p (1.79p) *Edgar Allen only.

Bowmaker Retrenchment seems complete

After obtaining its first three-year loan of £20m, Bowmaker was talking of an average maturity of its deposit book of over a year. Since then it has raised a further £5m three-year loan and now a £25m one-year facility which it expects to be renewable. This will enable it to cut out yet more one and three month deposits and, in the context of overall borrowings of some £125m, will mean it is very close to being fully matched on its loan portfolio—typically made up of two-year loans.

The new facility will give Bowmaker a useful cushion, and while consumer and industrial credit business is likely to continue at a low ebb in the near future, should at least enable it to start taking a more expansive view than it has been able to do in recent months. Until now the loan portfolio has been reducing but it would now seem that Bowmaker has fully emerged from its period of retrenchment.

Yarrow Terms to be negotiated

Any sensible stock market assessment of the candidates for nationalisation under the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill is still bedevilled by the absence of any precise guidelines on the compensation terms the companies are likely to receive. In most cases the reference time for arriving at the compensation figure is academic with only two quoted shipbuilders, Robb Caledon and Vosper, to be taken over lock, stock and barrel. In the remaining cases, where various assets and liabilities are to be taken under state control, the basis for compensation—whether by reference to assets, or earnings, or whatever—has not been spelt out even at this late stage.

To compound the felony, arbitration procedures could stretch out the period of uncertainty for up to two years. Thus Yarrow's share price during the seasonal reference period averaged 116p. Depending on whether assets or earnings are to be the basis for compensation—and shipbuilders obviously prefer the former because of the industry's low return on capital—Yarrow's compensation could be as low as 50p a share or as much as 30p.

With non-shipbuilding interests in boiler-making and marine consultancy worth another 75p in the last balance sheet—though they contributed less than a tenth of profits—there still looks something to go for in the shares of 134p if the more optimistic figure for compensation is taken.

Meanwhile, though the exact profit figures are not yet known, Yarrow has come through a difficult trading year in better shape than many others. A yield of 4.3 per cent at 134p on the dividend increased to 5.77p a share gross is a just reflection that Yarrow is one of the safest shipbuilding speculations.

International Business Machines, according to conventional wisdom, is good at marketing, prodigious with technology, sufficient in its employee relations, tight-lipped to the outside world, and profitable.

According to the company itself, it is dedicated to excellence. Its spokesmen profess pained wonder at outside criticism, which they claim to see as arising from the company's size and success.

According to Mr Rex Malik, freelance computer journalist, IBM has been characterized by "technological sloth, managerial arrogance, economic greed." One of its internal documents, he says, admits to "virtually a litany of every practice at some time or other, including illegal under-American anti-trust laws," and over the years it has been responsible for a flourishing "pattern of lies, evasions, half-truths and deception."

Mr Malik reaches these conclusions from a close study of the company—"without the help, cooperation or encouragement of IBM"—and in particular from a perusal of internal

documents submitted as evidence when Telcel, a supplier of IBM-compatible peripheral equipment, sued IBM on anti-trust charges alleging monopolistic and predatory commercial practices.

It is these internal company reports and memoranda which make Mr Malik's book rather more than a volume of speculation about IBM. In earlier books we have read of the dubious commercial practices of Tom Watson (Sr), father of the company, and of some of the more amusing and/or horrific aspects of working for IBM—the jag, the flipcharts, the task forces, the "penalty boxes" and "Siberias" where managers are sent whose excellence is found wanting, and so on.

We read of them again here, plus a brief history of the company. And, as in the previous books, the flavour of the company is conveyed by quotations from anonymous IBM people and former IBM people.

But

Appointments Vacant also on page 10

Australia Council

Deputy Executive Officer

The Council is successor to the Australian Council for the Arts. It has been established by the Australian Government to foster the Arts in Australia under the Australia Council Act 1975, broadly to promote standards and the fullest opportunity to participate, appreciate and enjoy the Arts.

The Council incorporates several Specialist Boards with delegated functions for support of different art forms. It also directly operates several programmes of more general support for Arts activity and development including Community Arts, International Cultural Exchanges, etc. The Council is seeking a Deputy Executive Officer to take responsibility for the development and implementation of Council policy under the direction of the Executive Officer. This will include a role on long-term policy directions: liaison with Boards and Committees on policy matters; contact with outside bodies including Government departments and authorities on aspects of the Council's developing role and responsibilities. The Deputy Executive Officer will be expected

to act in the full capacity of the Executive Officer on many occasions. This senior position calls for proven skills in policy development and administration. In addition, a broad knowledge and appreciation of the Arts is an essential qualification. The successful applicant will have an exceptional range of skills and experience to fill this demanding role. The capacity to give effective leadership in a diverse and developing environment must be evident.

Terms of appointment: 3 years in the first instance. Salary \$42,408 per annum (at present rate of exchange £1 = \$41.04).

Applications marked externally 'Private and Confidential' should include all relevant biographical data and other information with names and addresses of three referees, and should reach the following address no later than 19 December 1975.

The Executive Officer, Australia Council, P.O. Box 302, NORTH SYDNEY, N.S.W. 2060, Australia.



An expanding international bank seeks fresh **UNIVERSITY GRADUATES OR PERSONS** with a few years experience in international banking to start as **PROBATIONARY OFFICERS**. The ideal age for these positions is between 22-32 years while knowledge of any one or more oriental languages such as Urdu, Hindi, Punjabi, Arabic or Persian would be considered as an additional qualification. Candidates, who should either be U.K. citizens or holders of unrestricted work permit for U.K., are required to submit handwritten applications giving detailed account of their educational, professional and curricular activities not later than 12th December, 1975, addressed to: **THE PERSONNEL MANAGER, BANK OF CREDIT AND COMMERCE INTERNATIONAL S.A. 71a QUEEN VICTORIA ST., LONDON E.C.4.**

THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

Senior Lecturer in Social Administration and Social Work

The nature of this post derives from the impending retirement of Dr. Jean Heywood, Head of the Social Work Section of the Department. The appointee will take over the Section. Its main responsibility is the two-year Diploma and M.A. in Social Administration and Social Work (60 students). The Senior Lecturer will also be responsible for the general development of social work training and research. Although the main responsibility will be in the social work field, the Department strongly emphasises the close relationship between social administration and social work and the appointee will participate in its general teaching, research and administration. Salary range p.a.: £5,622-£7,430 per annum (under review). Superannuation.

Part-time Lecturer in Social Work

Duties involve the planning and arrangement of various kinds of placements for the students on professional social work courses, and working with supervisors and agencies to develop new kinds of placements. A professional qualification and experience in the field is essential. Salary range p.a.: £2,662-£4,692 (under review). Superannuation.

Further particulars and application forms (returnable by December 17th) from the Registrar, The University, Manchester, M13 9PL. Quota Ref.: 342/75/7. and state for which post you are applying.



A young man or woman capable of maintaining a management accounting reporting system is required for our Publishing Division and The Times Supplements. Applicants should be partly qualified (preferably I.C.M.A.) with previous management or financial accounting experience. They should be ready to take full responsibility for producing budgets, revenue and cost reports and for the allocation of costs. The successful applicant must be able to communicate effectively at all levels.

This is an excellent opportunity to start a career in the newspaper industry. We offer a starting salary of £3,145 (nine-month period) per annum, four weeks' and three days holiday rising to five weeks after one year's service and other fringe benefits.

Applications giving personal and career details should be sent to: Desmond Hayes, Employment Manager, Times Newspapers Limited, P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

RUXTON HILL SCHOOL, NORFOLK

The HEADSHIP of Ruxton Hill School will become vacant in March 1976.

Applications from either sex for this post are invited, and should be sent not later than 17th December, 1975, to the Secretary of the Governing Body, Ruxton Hill School, 1 The Sanctuary, London SW1P 3JT.

The Secretary will supply upon request full particulars of the post, including salary and allowances, accommodation, etc.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Nottingham DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE AND GYNAECOLOGY

Applications are invited for the post of Lecturer in the Department of Medicine and Gynaecology. The successful candidate will be responsible for the medical education of the students of the Department, and will also be responsible for the general development of the Department. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in its general teaching, research and administration. Salary range p.a.: £5,622-£7,430 per annum (under review). Superannuation.

The successful candidate will be expected to participate in its general teaching, research and administration. Salary range p.a.: £5,622-£7,430 per annum (under review). Superannuation.

University of Stirling DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

TEMPORARY LECTURESHIP

Applications are invited for a temporary lectureship in the Department of Medicine. The successful candidate will be responsible for the medical education of the students of the Department, and will also be responsible for the general development of the Department. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in its general teaching, research and administration. Salary range p.a.: £5,622-£7,430 per annum (under review). Superannuation.

The University of Manchester CHAIR OF ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for a Chair of Economics. The successful candidate will be responsible for the economic education of the students of the Department, and will also be responsible for the general development of the Department. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in its general teaching, research and administration. Salary range p.a.: £5,622-£7,430 per annum (under review). Superannuation.

University of Warwick LECTURESHIP IN ECONOMICS

Applications are invited for a lectureship in the Department of Economics. The successful candidate will be responsible for the economic education of the students of the Department, and will also be responsible for the general development of the Department. The successful candidate will be expected to participate in its general teaching, research and administration. Salary range p.a.: £5,622-£7,430 per annum (under review). Superannuation.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Assoc Newspapers comes up trumps

By Ashley Druker

Warning in July that earnings might not be maintained in 1975-76, Associated Newspapers has performed considerably better in the opening half to September 30 than most market expectations: the shares rose in response by 2.21p.

On the basis that the newspaper and newsprint side, the main source of profit, has suffered from the cut-back in advertising revenue—apart from the effect on the industry of rising labour and raw material costs—best hopes were for an outturn halved from some £4m to about £2m.

In the event, pessimists are confounded. Earnings held up surprisingly well: the pre-tax level was down only slightly, from £4m to £3.76m.

Profits include £673,000 (against £514,000 from associates and £562,000 (£597,000) from investments. Turnover climbed from £40.18m to £37.36m, while earnings a share worked out at 5.6p, compared with 6p. The distribution is increased in response by 2.21p.

The pattern of the preceding 12 months was the halving of a first-half decline, chiefly from a near-quadrupling to £137m in investment income. This source contributed £2.1m to overall profits (against £824,000) accounting for some 25.5 per cent of the total against 8.8 per cent. Trading profits encompassing the activities of the *Daily Mail* and the *London Evening News* brought in £2.27m, compared with £2.76m.

Braby Leslie fulfils hopes with a 62 pc rise

By Tony May

Strong rises in the shares of the Braby Leslie firm of civil and mechanical engineers pointed to market hopes of a good result for the six months to September 30. In fact, pre-tax profits for the half year jumped 62 per cent to £676,000 on turnover of £10.3m, against £3.6m. In response the shares duly went up a further 4p to 67p—a "high" for the year.

Over the whole of last year profits rose 24 per cent to a record £1.05m.

Mr John Hine, chairman, remains confident in the future growth and development of the group showed that the econo-

mic climate permit reasonable trading conditions. The most recent permitted dividend will be paid for the year, 4.78p, against 4.31p gross, and meanwhile the interim is raised from 1.11p to 1.92p. Earnings a share are up from 5.70p to 10.6p. Net tangible assets a share are 58.4p, against 36.5p. Bank facilities are adequate for present and estimated future requirements.

Last year the group's civil engineering companies had a disappointing year with only the Scottish units making a profit. The board's aim for the current year was to restore this situation.

Transparent Ppr pushed into loss of £162,000

Last year's second-half decline has bitten more deeply into Transparent Paper, converter of cellulose wrappings, in the opening stretch of October 4. With turnover slipping from £7.26m to £6.85m, the pre-tax collapsed from £757,000 to only £12,000.

At "net" level there is a loss of £162,000, against a profit of £361,000. The dividend, however, is repeated at 1.94p gross.

The preceding 12 months to March 29 brought a disappointing second-half setback after a fine start with turnover more than doubled. Though the late downturn amounted to 37.3 per cent, full-year profits gained nearly 19 per cent to a fresh peak £1.2m. Cutbacks in consumer spending were the main cause of the relapse that year.

Hambros achieve 'substantial' rise in earnings

A cheerful and reassuring mid-year statement pushed the shares of Hambros up by 13p to 195p yesterday. Earnings in the half to September 30 were substantially up, and the board thinks this trend will be maintained.

All aspects of merchant-banking contributed, particularly the investment sector. Fresh gains in premiums and profits were achieved by Hambros Life Assurance (a 55 per cent stake).

There is good news, too, of Norway, where the Government's guarantee scheme to provide for the value of Norwegian shipping assets has been announced. In May, Hambros' involvement in laid-up tankers was estimated at about £60m. The bank expects adopted values in almost all cases to be higher than those required to cover its loans.

Ropner growth checked by shipping reverse

In face of a 15 per cent reverse in pre-tax profits to £336,000 for the first half to September 30, Ropner shares, which is spread over shipping, insurance broking and engineering, says full results will be "satisfactory". (Whatever that may mean, the group advanced to £1.5m in the year to March 31 last.)

Shipping profits for the half year under review tumbled from £542,000 to £146,000 at pre-tax stage, largely because of a loss of earnings from two of its vessels, Stonepool and Bridgepool. Earlier this month Ropner sold the latter for £1.47m cash, and though shipping results are expected to improve in the second half, full profits from that source will still be "well down".

Engineering profits, however, more than doubled to £455,000, while earnings from insurance broking were slightly off. The dividend stays unchanged, but the board hopes to pay the maximum final.

Ropner's associate, Stag Line, suffered a sharper setback after the 1973-74 season as expected. In the year ended October 31, trading profit fell from £2.23m to £744,000, on turnover down from £2.98m to £2.92m. Earlier this year the group bought two new vessels for the group, and these would produce a "cash factory" return. The dividend is maintained.

Stocklake back to dividends

The delayed annual results of Stocklake Holdings (interests in steel stockpiling, engineering, throwers and driers, etc.) duly materialized as promised, and showing a resumption of dividends. On turnover of £16.6m against £19.4m, pre-tax profit

amounts to £540,000 compared with £139,000 after a debit of £483,000 on disposal of a subsidiary. At the "net" there is a turnaround from a loss of £102,000 to a profit of £193,000. To this is added extraordinary items of £33,000 (debit of £27,000). Pre-tax earnings, before the items, comes to 4.6p (losses of 2.4p) last, after 5.5p (losses of 3.1p). The dividend (against a nil payment) is 1.54p gross.

Sime bids agreed 25p for Marryat

In an agreed deal, Sime Darby, whose interests range from plantations to engineering and financial services, is offering some £1.5m for the Marryat Group of engineers, specialising in lifts.

The bid is 25p cash a share, which compares with a market price of 18p before the news. Sime held no shares before this, but is sure of acceptance of about 34 per cent from directors, and family holdings.

Over the whole of last year Marryat's profits shrank from a record £1.05m to £569,000 pre-tax and a difficult two years went in store for the group. The board had a basic plan for an expansion overseas, notably in the Middle East.

Cheerful package from Ultra Elec

A record pre-tax profit of £553,000 for the year to April 4 has been followed up by an 89 per cent leap in interim profits to £320,000 at Ultra Electronics. Turnover for the half year was 47 per cent greater at £5.6m.

Moreover, with an order-book up by £2m to £15m, Lord Orr-

Stock markets

BP hit by talk of Burmah placing

For the second day running, the London stock market marked time as the institutions held off in the hope of getting some fresh encouragement, like a cut in interest rates.

The fact that there is likely to be another small cut in the Minimum Lending Rate on Friday is being largely discounted by the gilt-edged lead, but some hardening in both markets for the rest of the week.

With profit-takers setting the tone, the FT index had shed 2.5 by 2.20 though a minor mark-up late in the session left the closing index at 373.1, a drop of 1.1 on the day.

One of the duller spots of the day came on the oil pitch where the prospect of a placing of Burmah's 21 per cent stake was enough to reduce the price of BP by 15p to 570p. But related issues were not greatly affected with Shell ending unchanged at 374p.

Shares in Hambros jumped 12p to 195p on the bank's announcement that its loan to the Norwegian shipping industry appears to be covered by the guarantee scheme proposed by the Norwegian Government.

In the "blue chips" Fisons 380p and Unilever 424p were typical of losses of two or three points. Nationalization stocks Hawker Siddeley down 2p to 330p, and Robb Caledon, 3p easier to 40p, were both hit by profit-taking.

After their recent firmness, which dates from the annual meeting of Antagannan Investment & Property, property shares met some selling and Land Securities 175p, MEPC 62p and Haslemere Estates 187p had all shed five points by the end of trading.

In shipping, John I. Jacobs was easier at 16p on the lack of confirmation of a tanker sale and Walter Runciman, a firm market of late, came back a long way, losing 9p to 115p.

Insurances were in line with the rest of the market as were the bank where Midland lost 4p to 295p, and the bank and both National Westminster 238p and Barclays 308p finished unchanged on the day. Hongkong & Shanghai continued to be the pick of the bunch, adding another 5p to 264p, but Brown Shipley were unchanged at 150p after an interim statement.

Better-than-expected half-time results from Associated Newspapers left the shares 9p better at 100p, but Transparent Paper lost 3p to 39p after its interim and both British Electric Corporation 45p and Reed Group 242p were easier after news that the Sun Printers merger is not to go ahead.

Textiles traded firmly on the prospect of import controls—

particular significance to the industry. Courtaulds added a couple of pence to 145p and Coats Patons managed to hold on to its overnight 62 1/2p.

The big engineers also had a firm day with Tube Investments gaining 2p to 294p and GKN staying at 253p. Two weak spots ahead of trading news were WIL Smal "A", down 5p to 390p, and J. Lyons "A", off by 3p to 150p.

The passing of its interim dividend continued to affect Walter Duncan Goodricke which lost 20p to 120p, while an offer to safeguard the future of the Grand National for five years did nothing for Ladbroke which shed 4p to 90p.

A bid from Sime Darby for the prospect of today's result unsettled Tesco which gave up 3p to 49p.

Initial gains of 50p were halved in golds following the lower market price "fix" but Pan Continental spurred 33p to 880p on a recent gold discovery. Ahead of an interim today, Johnson Matthey were nervous at 283p while the prospect of a result the following day clipped a few points from Lonrho at 120p.

Results from Akroyd & Smithers, though better, were largely discounted, and the shares lost 2p to 200p, while statements from Braby Leslie added 4p to 67p and Edgar Allen, 1p to 61p.

But Wheway Watson shaded half a point to 151p, Avon Rubber continued to be nervous at 42p and Royal Worcester gave up 4p to 12p in a continued reaction to an unfavourable mention.

In after-hours trading, light inquiry had the leaders a penny or two better in places and in some cases restoring the overnight position.

In foods, Highgate & Job

Latest dividends

Company	Ord div	Year ago	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Akroyd & Smithers (25p) Int	2.5	1.48	27/1	15.0	4.3
Associated Newspapers (25p) Int	1.48	0.4	12/1	15.0	4.3
Barclays (25p) Int	0.12	0.41	2/1	0.37	0.71
Bell & Howells (10p) Int	1.25	0.75	16/1	—	2.82
Brown Shipley (41p) Int	1.2	1.0	12/1	2.14	2.01
Carr's Milling (25p) Int	1.41	0.41	7/1	—	1.06
Fred Cooper (10p) Int	2.52	2.22	34/12	3.75	3.45
Drayton Cons (25p) Int	1.2	1.2	36/3	—	3.45
Edgar, Allen, Balfour (25p) Int	0.52	1.05	5/1	—	3.87
Evans of Leeds (25p) Int	1.0	1.0	13/1	—	7.10
Hambros (10p) Int	2.61	2.1	13/1	—	4.11
Highgate & Job (50p) Int	4.02	25.11	—	—	9.22
K. Kelvin Watson (10p) Int	0.93	2.2	—	—	—
Leisure Caravan (10p) Int	1.3	1.3	6/1	—	4.42
Melville, Dundas (25p) Int	1.2	1.13	6/1	—	3.05
Ropner (25p) Int	0.8	0.9	22/12	—	1.60
Scottish & Midland (25p) Int	1.61	1.46	30/12	2.45	2.3
Stocklake (25p) Int	1.3	1.3	1/1	1.0	3.89
Transparent Paper (25p) Int	1.36	1.30	—	—	0.53
Wheway Watson (5p) Int	0.37	0.25	6/1	—	3.51
Yarrow (50p) Int	2.45	2.46	2/1	3.75	3.51

Dividends in italics are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross, multiply the net dividend by 1.54. † Adjusted. * Final. ** To reduce disparity. *** Includes Centenary bonus of 2.5p.

Arenson switch to domestic furniture sector

Office furniture manufacturer group A. Arenson has diversified into the domestic furniture market from where it ultimately hopes to get 25 per cent of its total turnover accounting for a somewhat higher share of profits.

It suffered a sharp downturn last year after actually making a second half pre-tax loss at a time when it had embarked on a £1.3m capital expenditure programme. The company is beginning to meet a revival in orders, but looks to the end of this financial year and the beginning of the next for the real pick-up. Meanwhile the balance-sheet shows that total borrowings rose in the year from £579,000 to £1.33m while stocks more than doubled to £3.31m.

Newman-Tonks

Signs of improvement are being shown in the incoming order situation, Mr Michael Wright, chairman of Newman-Tonks, architectural and builders' hardware, told the annual meeting. Efforts are concentrated on expanding exports, and it is setting up its own marketing and sales organization in Europe.

Fredk Cooper loss

On turnover decreased from £4.09m to £2.73m for the six months to September 30, pre-tax profit of £66,000 (Holdings), cold rolled strip, slid into the red. At the pre-tax the loss is £38,000 against a profit of £258,000. Meanwhile the interim dividend is slashed from 0.61p to 0.15p gross.

Carr's recovers to record £692,000

The interim recovery at Carr's Milling Industries was continued in the second half and pre-tax profits for the year to August 30 are up from £109,000 to a record £692,000. This compares with the 1973 "high" of £488,000. Turnover went up from £11.2m to £12.4m.

Melville Dundas strong

Having pushed its pre-tax profit up from £52,000 to a record £87,500 last year, Melville Dundas & Whitson, building and civil engineering contractors, has started the current year well. Pre-tax profits for the six months to June 30 are up from £390,000 to £503,000 on turnover of £11m, against £8.5m.

The group's volume of activi-

Briefly

local hours is unchanged at 11; price of 1975 fell by 23m; Bradford, East Kilbride, Motherwell, London, Oldham and Wigan. North has raised £1.5m.

VOLVO PROFIT SLUMP Volvo's pre-tax profit for first nine months of 1975 fell by 23m to 348m kr (£39m) on sales of 9,785m kr (£7,588m). This included a 19m drop in sales of 7.5m per cent owned Dutch subsidiary DAF. Volvo president confident for full year.—Rout.

COUNTRY GENTLEMEN'S ASSOC Turnover for 1975 fell by £1.0m (£992,000). Pre-tax profit, £219 (£23,000). Full year's profit should be more in line with last year's.

LEIGH INTERESTS Pre-tax profit, £210,000 (£128,000). Turnover, £5.4m (£3.5m) for first six months to September 30. Dividend 0.42p (£0.29).

LOCAL LOANS UNCHANGED The weekly borrowing rate for

LONDON & MONTROSE INVESTMENT TRUST LIMITED

Secretary—Fleming & Murray

Year ended 30th Sept.	Gross Revenue	Ordinary Share	Gross Assets (pence current)	Net Asset Value per Share
1973	617	3.18p	3.06p	21,213
1974	722	4.02p	3.65p	10,584
1975	784	4.19p	4.00p	17,484

The twenty largest holdings, detailed in the Report and Accounts, equal 27.97 per cent of the portfolio. In his statement, the chairman SIR REGINALD WILSON said, that for the current year: "Your directors expect that the dividend on the ordinary shares at the increased rate of 4 pence per share will be maintainable."

Copies of the Accounts are available from the Registrars, 95, Southwark Street, London SE1 0JB

مركز الأمل

Business to Business

Readers are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering obligations.

CONTRACTS & TENDERS

ALGERIAN REPUBLIC DEMOCRATIC AND POPULAR

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND ENERGY

SONATRACH

NOTICE OF INVITATION FOR INTERNATIONAL BIDS

An invitation for international bids is called for to design, furnish and build an operating plant of liquid ammonia of a capacity of 1,000 metric tonnes/day at Skikda.

1—PROJECT SCOPE AND OBLIGATIONS

- Engineering studies and furnishing of plans of construction
- The construction of the production units, stockage and shipping facilities, necessary buildings
- Starting up of plant to production acceptance

2—PROCUREMENT OF BID BOOKS AND DOCUMENTS

Concerned companies, having experience, in the engineering and construction of such process plants, can obtain a copy of the bid book from the authorised SONATRACH representative at 9, Rue Abou-Nouas—HYDRA—Algiers Tel: 60 40 00 To 05 Zone Industrielle de Skikda Project AMMONIA Tel: 95 57 40 effective 10th November 1975.

3—RETURN OF BIDS

The bid documents are to be sent before the date of 5 April 1976 and addressed to

the Vice President

ENGINEERING AND DEVELOPMENT

SONATRACH 9, Rue Abou Nouas—HYDRA—ALGER,

the documents to be returned under double envelopes.

The inside envelope will be marked

"BID SUBMISSION—DO NOT OPEN".

Republic of Senegal

Ministry of Public Works,
Town Planning and Transport
Autonomous Port of Dakar,

NOTICE OF Preliminary Selection

The autonomous Port of Dakar is planning to construct a fishing mole of some 10.5 hectares in the north-eastern zone of the Port of Dakar, together with the reorganisation of existing installations.

The work will comprise five lots:

Lot No. 1 Infrastructure

The construction of 1,495 metres of quay of which 385 metres have foundations at a depth of 10 metres while 1,110 metres have foundations at a depth of 7 metres (quays in blocks, reinforced concrete caissons and on piles). Construction of a structure for the circulation of water, mounted on piles 15 metres wide and 72 metres long.

Lot No. 2 Filling

The execution of some 800,000 cu. metres of sand backfill (mechanical or hydraulic).

Lot No. 3 The equipping of quays

Construction of roads and provision of sanitation, lighting, water supplies and telephone services.

Lot No. 4 Extension of the south quay

By 50 metres, structure to be on 7 metre deep pile foundation and demolition of a 250 tonne slipway.

Lot No. 5 Roofing of canal No. 5

Construction of a sand trap and a roof structure of reinforced concrete some 12 metres wide and 190 metres long, pile-mounted.

This work, the value of which is estimated at some 5,700m francs CFA will be the subject of an international invitation to tender and a preliminary selection of firms is being made for this purpose. Finance will probably be provided by B.I.R.D. and the C.C.C.E.

Firms wishing to apply for qualification should forward their applications for inclusion in the tender in French and by registered post to Monsieur le Directeur du Port Autonome de Dakar—Boite postale 3,195—DAKAR—Republic of Senegal, to reach the above address by 12 noon on 31 January, 1976.

To be acceptable applications must be formulated in accordance with the official preliminary selection requirements, copies of which are obtainable either from the Direction du Port Autonome de Dakar—Boite postale No. 3,195—Dakar—Republic of Senegal, or from the Bureau Central d'Etudes pour les Equipements d'Outre-Mer—L5 Square Maz Hymans—Paris XV.

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BIRTHS

CHESTERMAN—On November 22nd in Australia, a son, James, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Chesterman. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **POWELL**—On 11th November, a son, Christopher, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Powell. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **LEAH**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Leah. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **MACDONALD**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. MacDonald. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **QUINN**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Quinn. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **SHAW**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Shaw. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **CHESLTON**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Cheslton. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **CLYDE**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Clyde. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **OREWITT**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Orewitt. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **DUFFIELD**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Duffield. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **ELLIS**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Ellis. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **FORBES**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Forbes. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey.

DEATHS

CHESLTON—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Cheslton. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **CLYDE**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Clyde. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **OREWITT**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Orewitt. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **DUFFIELD**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Duffield. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **ELLIS**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Ellis. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **FORBES**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Forbes. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey.

IN MEMORIAM

CHAPMAN—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Chapman. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **KING**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. King. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **WHEELER**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Wheeler. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **WHEELER**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Wheeler. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **WHEELER**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Wheeler. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey. **WHEELER**—On 22nd November, a son, David, to Mr. and Mrs. J. Wheeler. Address: 1, Maida Road, Weybridge, Surrey.

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THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE No 14,160

ACROSS

- 1 Warden for president? (7).
- 2 Material for the males of various breeds? (7).
- 3 Super subject of a poet's autobiography? (10).
- 4 Recover to hold moustache in battle? (5).
- 5 Arranges about many decrees? (6).
- 6 French writer is after the beer-drinking woman—writing was (5).
- 7 In short, it helps with the tenth payment (5).
- 8 Apple with meat rare? That's about right (9).
- 9 Former majority figure (6).
- 10 A pasty men's put back in layers (6).
- 11 Used to play march in A—nothing new (9).
- 12 Letters written by Terry (5).
- 13 All these go on moon trip? (7).
- 14 Escape? Nonsense! (7).

DOWN

- 1 South African has steamers dream about ten (9).
- 2 Practical chap alters one arrangement (7).

DEATHS

HARRIS—On 21st November, Mrs. J. Harris, 65, of 12, Elmwood, London, N.W.1. Funeral on 22nd November, 11.0 a.m., from St. Paul's Church, Weybridge, Surrey. **HARRIS**—On 21st November, Mrs. J. Harris, 65, of 12, Elmwood, London, N.W.1. Funeral on 22nd November, 11.0 a.m., from St. Paul's Church, Weybridge, Surrey.

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THE CHEST & HEART ASSOCIATION works for the prevention of ANGINA—ASTHMA—BRONCHITIS—STROKE—CORONARY THROMBOSIS. Help those who suffer from these conditions. Send a donation. Send a donation. Send a donation.

MEDICATED SURVIVAL

When there is no prospect of recovery from terminal illness, would you wish to be kept alive by medical machinery? Would you wish to be kept alive by medical machinery? Would you wish to be kept alive by medical machinery?

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PERSONAL COLUMNS

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